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A striking and very high quality pair of French 19th century Neo-Classical st. patinated bronze and ormolu statues. The statues depict hunter gatherers/explorers and are each raised by an elegant octagonal and mottled base. The statue to the left depicts a handsome male hunter with his foot on a tree trunk. He is leaning on a club wearing boots and is draped in a wonderfully executed flowing garment and animal skin cape with a bag over his shoulder and a dagger at his belt. The statue to the right depicts a beautiful woman also draped in a flowing garment and animal skin wearing a shirt adorned with coins and fine beaded bracelets with her hair tied by a headband. She is holding a basket of gathered fruit on her shoulder and a water vessel at her side.

James Pradier, born Jean-Jacques Pradier, (1790 - 1852) was a Swiss-born French sculptor best known for his work in the Neo-Classical style. Born in Geneva, Pradier left for Paris in 1807 to work with his elder brother, Charles-Simon Pradier, an engraver. He attended the École des Beaux-Arts in 1808. He won a Prix de Rome that enabled him to study in Rome from 1814 to 1818 at the Villa Médicis. Pradier made his debut at the Salon in 1819. In 1827 he became a professor at the École des Beaux-Arts.





