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An important and large scale pair of Italian late 18th century Neo-Classical period oil on canvas paintings of Angelica and Medoro by Teodoro Matteini. Each painting is set within its original giltwood frame decorated with a fine carved Les Oves designed band at the border with exceptional intricately detailed palmettes amidst berried laurel branches at each corner set on a superb hammered background and within a delicate wrap around Coeur de Rai designed border. Each masterfully executed painting depicts Angelica and Medoro with wonderful attention to details and beautiful vivid colors throughout. Angelica and Medoro are a popular theme for Romantic painters, composers and writers in the 16th to 19th centuries. Angelica and Medoro are two characters from the 16th-century Italian epic poem named Orlando Furioso (The Frenzy of Orlando) by Ludovico Ariosto. Angelica was an Asian princess at the court of Charlemagne who fell in love with the Saracen knight Medoro and eloped with him to China. While in the original work, Orlando was the main character, many adaptations focused purely or mainly on the love between Angelica and Medoro, with the favorite scenes in paintings being Angelica nursing Medoro, and Angelica carving their names into a tree.

Exceptional execution and detail throughout.

Teodoro Matteini (1753-1831) was an Italian painter, etcher and draftsman born in Pistoia. He studied in Rome before becoming a professor at the Venice Academy in 1807. He died in Venice in 1831. He specialized mainly in historical subjects in the Neoclassical style. Recognized as some of his master works are the paintings of Angelica and Medoro





