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PALM BEACH

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A truly spectacular and monumentally scaled Italian 19th century Neo-Classical st. white Carrara marble planter of the Marriage of Bacchus and Ariadne. The statement making planter is raised by a striking thick mottled base with a fine wrap around sculpted fillet. At the center is a wonderfully executed wrap around scene of the marriage procession of Bacchus and Ariadne with their chariot drawn by two intricately sculpted panthers. A man extends a bowl of ambrosia while a charming cherub rides a panther and plays the lyre. An inebriated Bacchus is slumped on a donkey and held up by another man while another pours him more wine. Beautiful maidens draped in fine flowing period attire are dancing and playing tambourines amidst dancing men and fauns. Inscribed on one side is "INROMA VRBANIS VIII MDCCLXI", celebrating Pope Urban The Eighth's Jubilee in the year 1625. On the other side is a later inscription, "Tito Malperi Rest MDCCCLXI (1861)". Stunning proportions, wonderful subject matter and a commanding presence.

Modeled after a 2nd century sarcophagus now on display in the British Museum in London.





