

RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



A large pair of four-light girandoles

Circa: circa 1780

98 x 48 cm

3' 2⁵/₈" x 1' 6⁷/₈"

18th Century

circa 1780

Gilded Bronze

98 x 48 cm (38 ⁵/₈ x 18 ⁷/₈ inches)

Paris, France

Gilded and patinated Bronze

On a square plinth with stylized leaf frieze perimeter is based a circular foot decorated with an acanthus frieze with a slightly curved, cannelated shaft. On this rests an ovoid vase body made of patinated bronze, clasped by a bowl-shaped trimming composed of alternating floral and leaf work. This vase body is enclosed in its upper third by an ornamentally perforated band that is flanked on both sides by two female masks. The round neck of the vase fitted with a protruding cambered facing is accompanied by cannelures in fine contrast to its partially polished gilding. The protruding collar is overgrown by a naturalist arrangement of grapes and vine leaves growing out of the winding floral vines, which latter possibly represent a motif added later. Above this rises a central shaft that is enclosed by an immediately adjoining four-leafed acanthus goblet and floral work. Along its course the shaft is entwined by a trimming of bay leaves. From the acanthus goblet grow three curved candlestick arms ending in

candle sockets with drip dishes that are accentuated nicely in the middle by trimming showing three rooster faces in relief. In the opposite direction, each arm is given a vine which is connected to the central shaft via cylindrical mounting and ends above in a stylized volute of acanthus leaves. The vertical shaft ends at the top in a protruding candle mount with ornamental acanthus leaf decoration and a candle socket with dish.

Literature:

Geoffrey de Bellaigue, The James A. de Rothschild Collection at Waddesdon Manor, Furniture, Clocks and Gilt Bronzes, Vol. II, Fribourg 1974, p. 696, fig. 169

Catalogue Hotel Drouot, Objets d'Arts, 5. - 13. April 1886, Pos. 875

Peter Hughes, The Wallace Collection, Catalogue of Furniture III, London 1996,

p. 1237, 1252 f.

Hans Ottomeyer/Peter Pröschel, Vergoldete Bronzen, Vol. I, München 1986, p. 259,

fig. 4.7.13