



**A PAIR OF CARVED GILTWOOD 'TORCHÈRES AUX  
DAUPHINS'**

**Dimensions: H: 53.5 in / 135.5 cm**

**9791**



BUTCHOFF  
LONDON

XVIII-XIX CENTURY  
FURNITURE & DECORATIVE ARTS



A Pair of Carved Giltwood 'Torchères Aux Dauphins'

A rare and magnificent pair of torchères carved from solid wood, entirely gilded, rising from a tripartite base formed of addorsed and intertwined dolphins gathered around the central clustered column, with a further trio of mythical dolphins flanking carved shells to each side; the whole tapering towards the platform top.

French, circa 1885

A variation of the famous 'torchères aux dauphins' first appearing in the 17th and 18th centuries, this pair shares the same recognizable structure. A pair can be seen at Belvoir Castle, the stately home used as the set for Netflix's hit-series *The Crown*, where the torchères share the screen with the monarch.

**Literature:**

Cailleux, J., Étienne Lévy, J. Nicolier, and Stéphane Faniel. *Le XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle français*. Paris: Hachette, 1956, p. 150 (fig. D), illustrating a single example.