

# BUTCHOFF

EXCELLENCE IN ANTIQUES

Est.1964



## LES GRANDS FAUNES BY CLODION

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Dimensions: H: 45 in / 113 cm | Dia: 17 in / 42.5 cm

A Substantial Pair of Gilt and Patinated Bronze Candelabra

After the model by Clodion (1738-1814)

Rising from important circular Rouge de Vérone marble bases, the gilt- and patinated-bronze figures of female and male Bacchic figures after the original model known as "les grands faunes" by Claude Michel dit Clodion. Resting at their feet, a thyrsus, ewer, and pan pipes in gilt bronze; with finely cast tambourines suspended from their hips. The toursade cornucopia issuing nine scrolling branches decorated with acanthus leaves, an abundance of grapes, and gilt-bronze eagles' heads, terminating in foliate sconces.

Signed to the base, "Clodion."

French, circa 1900.

**Literature:**

The models of these figures have traditionally been attributed to Clodion. A drawing in the Musée des art décoratifs (Paris), dated circa 1785, corresponds closely to the figure of the female faun. The model of "les grands faunes" was consistently produced throughout the nineteenth-century, spurred on by royal interest (one pair residing at the Louvre and the other at Fontainebleau). Notable examples belong to Ostankino palace in Moscow, the royal palace in Madrid, Waddesdon Manor, Buckingham Palace, and Blenheim Palace.

Literature:

Alcouffe, Daniel, Anne Dion-Tenenbaum, and Gérard Mabilie. *Gilt Bronzes in the Louvre*. Dijon: Faton, 2004, pp. 188-9.

Ottomeyer, Hans, and Jean-Dominique Augarde. *Vergoldete Bronzen d. Bronzearbeiten d. Spätbarock u. Klassizismus 1*. München: Klinkhardt u. Biermann, 1986, p. 283, fig. 4.14.5.

Samoyault, Jean-Pierre. "L'appartement de la Générale Bonaparte puis de l'impératrice Joséphine aux Tuileries (1800-1807)," in *Bulletin de la Société de l'histoire de l'Art français*, 1999, pp. 153-4.

