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LONDON

XVIII-XIX CENTURY  
FURNITURE & DECORATIVE ARTS



**AN EXQUISITE TABLE IN THE LOUIS XV MANNER  
BY BEURDELEY OF PARIS**

**Dimensions: H: 29.5 in / 74.5 cm | W: 21.5 in / 54 cm | D: 13 in / 33.5 cm**

**9788**

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An Exquisite Table à Ouvrage in the Louis XV manner  
by Beurdeley of Paris

Of beautifully drawn proportions, constructed from kingwood, amaranth, and tulipwood alongside various specimen woods, the cabriole legs with gilded bronze foliate cast sabots and foliate espagnolettes, the shaped frieze inlaid with panels of floral marquetry to all sides, a single drawer sliding forward revealing a hinged leather writing surface itself flanked by two compartments; the shaped sliding top with a scrolled cartouche centred by musician monkeys surrounded by three marquetry trophies representing Music, Love, & Hunting surrounded by a trellis parquetry; surmounted by a three-quarter ormolu gallery 'à la grecque.'

French, circa 1880

This exact table is illustrated in Denise Ledeoux-Lebard's 'Le mobilier français du XIX siècle,' as well as appearing in Camille Mestdagh's 'L'ameublement d'art français,' and the model is discussed by Christopher Payne in his "Paris Furniture."



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The marquetry scene on the top of this writing table derives from engravings published in Paris in the mid-eighteenth century entitled *Le Tambour de Basque* and *Le Tambourin* by J. Guelard after designs by Christophe Huet (d.1759). The trophies come from a design by Gilles Demarteau l'aîné (1722-1776) and can be seen on several pieces of 18th century French fine furniture.

The original eighteenth-century table, known as the table "aux singes," is at Waddesdon Manor having formerly been in the sale of the contents of San Donato in 1880, the Florentine residence of Count Demidov. According to Christopher Payne, this may have given the Parisian ébénistes and marqueteurs the opportunity to study the design and it is likely that this was when the Beurdeley example was made.

**Literature:**

Mestdagh, Camille, and Pierre Lécoules. *L'ameublement d'art français 1850-1900*. Paris: Éd. de l'Amateur, 2010, p. 266-267.

Ledoux-Lebard, Denise. *Le mobilier français du XIXe siècle, 1795-1889 : dictionnaire des ébénistes et des menuisier*. Paris: Éditions de l'amateur, 2000, p. 355 (pl. III).

Payne, Christopher. *Paris Furniture: The Luxury Market of the 19th Century*. Château de Saint-Rémy: Éditions Monelle Hayot, 2018, p. 176.