

A PAIR OF CHINESE CRACKLEWARE LAMPS

Dimensions: H: 24 in / 61 cm | Dia: 5 in / 13 cm

9924

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A pair of vintage Chinese crackleware antique vase lamps of baluster form, having applied Taotie masks dressed with French Ormolu mounts. These baluster form pale blue crackleware vases, dressed with Taotie masks, to discourage evil spirits, and dressed with bronze mounts in the Ming manner, were brought to the West, and, with a stroke of inspiration employed as oil lamps, being fitted with ormolu bases in the oriental taste and oil reservoirs and burners; here, the original wick adjusters are retained. Thus, artistic effort, knowledge, and tradition were combined with typical Victorian practicality, and with our adaptation for electricity, a century and a half later, the decorative lighting function is in use again.
Chinese & French, circa 1880

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