



**A NEAR PAIR OF LAPIS LAZULI OBELISKS**

**Dimensions: H: 22.5 in / 57 cm | W: 4.5 in / 11.5 cm**

**10112**



### A Near Pair of Lapis Lazuli Obelisks

Veneered with the rare and semi-precious deep blue lapis admired for its intense colour, each obelisk with Carrara marble bases and moulding.

Probably Venetian, circa 1870

[Lapis lazuli](#), along with other valuable hardstones like porphyry, amethyst, jasper, and agate, held a position of high demand as luxury items from the late 18th Century onwards. Among those who passionately admired and avidly collected such precious materials was the duc d'Aumont (1709-1782), the premier gentilhomme ordinaire de la Chambre du Roi. He established a workshop within the Hôtel des Menus-Plaisirs du Roi dedicated to the cutting and polishing of hardstones and precious marbles. An enduring testament to the enduring allure of lapis lazuli is exemplified by a pair of ormolu-mounted lapis vases, previously owned by Baron Basile de Schlichting and now part of the collection at the Musée du Louvre.