



Pair Of Vases With Elephant By F. Barbedienne, France, Circa 1880



2 800 EUR

Signature : F. Barbedienne

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Diameter : 7

Height : 14,5

<https://www.proantic.com/en/1444748-pair-of-vases-with-elephant-by-f-barbedienne-france-circa-1880.html>

Description

Signed F. Barbedienne

Charming pair of small vases in gilded and enameled bronze, with orientalist decoration of arabesques and polychrome foliage on a blue background. They are decorated with gilded bronze handles with an elephant's head and rest on a circular foot.

Biography :

Born in 1810, died in Paris in 1892, Ferdinand Barbedienne, the most important caster of bronze pieces of art during the second half of the 19th Century, created and directed in Paris one of the major artistic founderies of his time. Barbedienne specialised in classical reproductions, whose models were exposed in famous European

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museums. Their illustrated catalogues included many diverse objects such as busts, ornamental sculpture (clocks, candelabras, cups) sometimes even life-sized and also bronzes for furniture.

Apart from his own production, Barbedienne worked for the most renowned sculptors such as Barrias, Clésinger and Carrier-Belleuse. All his works were highly esteemed and he, himself honoured by contemporary critics. At the London exhibition in 1851 Barbedienne's firm won two «

Council medals ». At the 1855 Universal Exhibition, he won a medal of honour. The

success of Barbedienne's firm brought him many official commissions, such in about 1860, as

Barbedienne supplied bronzes for furniture for the Pompeian Villa of Prince Napoléon-Joseph, located avenue Montaigne in Paris. At the

London Universal Exhibition of 1862

Barbedienne won medals in three different categories : Furniture, Silversmith work and

Artistic bronzes. Barbedienne was made an officer of the Légion d'Honneur in 1867 and

Commander in 1878 when he was compared with « a prince of industry and the king of bronze

casting ». His glory did not decline with the passage of the time for at the Universal

Exhibition of 1889 the critics thanked

Barbedienne for the example he set for other

bronze-casters by the perfection of his bronzes.