The largest collection of important 17th, 18th and 19th century French, Italian and Continental Antique furniture and accessories in the United States. Luxuriously showcased in a truly authentic European ambiance of a custom designed two-story 20,000 square foot gallery.

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A sensational and extremely high quality French 19th century Louis XVI st. Belle Époque period ormolu, Rouge Antique and Rouge de Verone marble planter stand inspired by a model by Gouthière. The most impressive planter is raised by a circular Rouge de Verone marble base with an elegant mottled border and wrap around ormolu band. Three elegant slender legs with unique block feet lead upwards to superb finely detailed busts of handsome bearded men in a rich satin and burnished finish. The legs are connected by a most decorative bottom tier with a fine wrap around foliate band and central finial from where three exceptional delicate chutes lead upwards. Above is the striking Rouge Antique bowl adorned with large magnificent richly chased oak branches and leaves with charming acorns and an impressive and most decorative wrap around ormolu band with a beautiful interlocking circular geometric design. Two charming and wonderfully detailed love birds are perched above the mottled rim with an impressive pierced palmette gallery. All original gilt throughout.

Pierre Gouthière (1732-1814) - born Bar-sur-Aube, was renowned gilder of his time, unsurpassed by any of his rivals. He was the student of François Ceriset and took over his workshop in 1758. Under the protection of the duke d'Aumont, he produced works for King Louis XVI and Princess Marie Antoinette and become the sole gilder for the "Menus-Plaisirs du Roi". He was the inventor of the matte gilding which became know as the beautiful satin and burnished finish noticed on high quality pieces. He trained famous bronzier Pierre-Philippe Thomire in his studio.

Item #12163   H: 43 in L: 15 in D: 15 in   List Price: $68,900.00