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3415 South Dixie Highway, West Palm Beach, FL. 33405 Tel. 561.835.1319 Fax 561.835.1379

A stunning and extremely high guality French 19th century Louis XVI st. Mahogany, exotic woods and ormolu side table/desk attributed to Beurdeley and after a model by Riesener. The 'Table des Muses' is raised by elegant circular tapered legs with fine fitted foliate sabots with palmettes encasing each leg below exquisite fillets leading upwards to beautiful mottled foliate ormolu top caps. Above each leg are stunning richly chased rosettes in a superb satin and burnished finish with impressive scrolled acanthus leaves branching out from the straight frieze. The frieze displays a most decorative continuation of the acanthus leaves leading to lovely blooming flowers and exceptional scrolled movements centering the drawer decorated with wonderfully inlaid charming cherubs reading books with a telescope off to one side and measuring stars on a globe with a divider. The sides and back also display beautiful inlaid scenes depicting the arts with a cherub sculpting a bust, another drawing with an easel and a sculpture in the background and cherubs studying and looking at zodiac signs through a telescope. Above is the stunning masterfully inlaid marguetry top depicting astronomy and geometry, personified by the Muses Urania and Calliope draped in wonderfully executed flowing period attire while holding a telescope and a pair of compasses with books on their laps and an impressive armillary sphere at the center. They are seated on a pedestal like base with exquisite pyrograved scrolled foliate movements and striking rosettes at the corners with a outstanding mottled wrap around ormolu gallery at the border. The original model of this table was by Jean-Henri Riesener which he completed in 1771 for King Louis XVI and which is now on display at the Petit Trianon at Versailles. Alfred Emmanuel Louis Beurdeley (1847-1919) A Parisian cabinetmaker who specialized in the manufacture of luxurious French furnishings. Much admired for his 19th-century interpretations of Louis XV designs, his extraordinary works earned him a Gold Medal at the Paris Exhibition Universelle of 1889. He specialized in high-quality, 18th-century revivals of Louis XV and Louis XIV-style furnishings. Beurdeley exhibited his works at the International Exposition of 1870, the Amsterdam Exposition of 1883, and the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1889. Beurdeley made an indelible mark on the history of 19thcentury French furnishing; His creations remain among the finest of the period.













