

PALM BEACH

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An impressive and large scaled pair of French 19th century Louis XVI st. Ormolu sconces. The sconces after a model by Pierre Gouthière display five scrolled arms showcasing reeded designs and are adorned with richly chased bottom acanthus leaves. The arms lead to a tapering circular saucer with additional leaves and a beaded rim. The candle cups above have a fluted center with chandelles. The arms are connected at the backplate in the form of an impressive filled quiver with a spiral fluted design and full of arrows. The quiver ends with bottom palmette and acorn finial.

*Shown with shades for display purposes, sold separately.

Pierre Gouthière (1732-1814) - born Bar-sur-Aube, was known as the best metal worker and gilder of his time and was 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 becoming the sole gilder for the "Menus-Plaisirs du Roi" as well as producing work for the duchess of Mazarin and Madame du Barry. He was the inventor of the matte gilding which became known as the beautiful satin and burnished finish noticed on high quality pieces and also trained the acclaimed master bronzier Pierre-Philippe Thomire in his studio. Unfortunately most of his work was lost or destroyed but some of his finest and most representative creations can still be admired in the Wallace Collection.





