

PALM BEACH

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 most elegant pair of French 19th century Louis XVI st. patinated bronze and ormolu lidded urns signed, Fumiere et Cie. Each urn is raised by a circular ormolu base with a fine mottled border and a wrap around beaded band below a fluted socle shaped pedestal support with lovely foliate accents. The patinated bronze body is encased with beautiful richly chased ormolu palmettes in a superb satin and burnished finish with striking Greek key handles and fine fluted designs, lovely foliate finials, and each connected by most decorative swaging ormolu chains with tassels tied at an elegant central rosette. Above is the elegantly curved pierced ormolu neck with beautiful beaded and reeded bands with the removable lid centered by a richly chased acorn finial which lifts off to reveal the finished interior. All original gilt and patina throughout. Fumière et Cie was part of Thiébaut Frères, a renowned French bronzier / foundry in the mid 19th century devoted to works of art. This distinguished company worked with famous sculptors and other bronziers like Barbedienne, Belleuse, DuBois, Carpeaux and d'Angers. They took part in many French exhibitions and created many historical monuments in and around Paris, including Saint Michael striking down the dragon (designed by Duret for the Saint-Michel's fountain in Paris) and Napoleon I designed by Dumont for the Vendôme column. Others include: Gloria Victis by Mercié, a statue of Alexandre Dumas Père, a vase called Le Poème de la Vigne (currently in the San Francisco Museum), a statue depicting Charlemagne by Marquet brothers and a reduction of the Statue of Liberty made by Bartholdi which is now on Grenelle's bridge in Paris. In 1898, Rodin signed a contract with this company regarding the casting of two of his works in different sizes: Saint John the Baptist and Triumphant youth.











