

**SA248538**

Pair of C19th Italian carved alabaster 'Grand Tour' souvenir "Medici" lions.

Price

**Sold**

**Item Reference: SA248538**

**Date of manufacture: 1880**

## Description

Pair of C19th Italian carved alabaster 'Grand Tour' souvenir "Medici" lions. Well-carved models of "The Medici Lions" standing on detachable stepped plinths beneath glass domes onto ebonised wooden bases with crimson velvet lining. These famous lions with their paws resting on a sphere, now guard the steps to the 'Loggia dei Lanzi' in the Piazza della Signoria, Florence, Italy. The pair were relocated to Florence in 1787 from the Villa Medici in Rome, the original single ancient marble lion sculpture being from 2nd century BC having been restored in 1598. This is now paired with the companion "Leone" carved by Flaminio Vacca between 1594 and 1598. Both of these alabaster lions in mint condition, with no damage or repairs. Great carved detail to mane and body, with rib detail to flanks, standing on naturalistic bases. Glass domes perfect. H (domes) 11" x W (domes on base) 14". Lions H. 8" x W. 9" x D. 4". Italy c 1880.

Internal Ref: MLBW 1311

## Seller Details

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