

SA467698

Pair of mid C19th gilded brass
'Grand Tour' souvenir volute
Krater vases , known as "The
Townley Vase".

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA467698

Date of manufacture: 1860

Dimensions

Height = 30 cm (11.8")

Width = 20 cm (7.9")

Depth = 20 cm (7.9")

Description

Pair of mid C19th gilded brass 'Grand Tour' souvenir volute Krater vases , known as "The Townley Vase". Well-cast good larger-scale copies of the Roman 2nd century AD marble urn discovered in 1773 at the Villa of Antoninus Pius in Monte Cagnolo by Gavin Hamilton , agent to the famous collector of antiquities, Charles Townley . The bodies of the vases are decorated in high relief and depicts a Bacchalian procession, a raucous festival of drinking and feasting. The central figures portraying Bacchus and Ariadne , whilst Pan is portrayed along with the followers of Bacchus , Satyrs and Maenads dancing and cavorting. Bacchus or Dionysus is the God of wine in Ancient Greek and Roman mythology. These large ancient vessels were originally made to mix wine and water in during the festival rituals and copy the Ancient Greek versions . Smart pair of decorative vases with a bright , though aged , patina , with minor areas of verdigris around the handle areas adding to the atmosphere of antiquity. H 12" W 8" D 8" France or Italy c.1860

Internal Ref: ML 1704

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