

SA742266

**A PAIR OF LATE 19TH
CENTURY GILT BRONZE
FRENCH MARLY HORSES.
After GUILLAUME COSTOU
THE ELDER (French,
1677-1746).**

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA742266****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 49.5 cm (19.5")

Width = 34 cm (13.4")

Description

The Bronzes are after Guillaume Coustouv's Horse Tamer, from the "Chevaux de Marly" series. "Marly Horses" (often incorrectly called "Marley" horses) are so called after the pair of Carrara marble horses sculpted by Guillaume Coustou in 1739, as a commission for Louis XV for the Chateau at Marly-le-Roi near Paris. There were entitled Horse Restrained by Groom. They are now in the Marly Sculpture Courtyard at the Louvre. Footnote: Guillaume Costou the Elder was a French Sculptor and academician. He won the Colbert prize giving him a four-year scholarship at the French Academy in Rome. He soon left it, however and according to legend, wandered homeless around the streets of Rome for some time. On his return to Paris he helped his uncle execute the monumental equestrian sculptures of Fame and Mercury for Marley, which were to be replaced by his own Horse Tamers, which reinvent the theme of the colossal Roman marbles of the 'Horse Tamers' in the Piazza Quirinale, in Rome. Marley was where Louis XVI of France could escape the formal rigours of what he was constructing in Versailles. The theme of Marley was that it was a simple hunting lodge, just enough to accommodate the Roy...

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