Justin Evershed-Martin

Fine Art and Design



A Pair of 19th Century Neoclassical Armchairs

Attr. To Jacob Freres

Of architectural outline and elegant, timeless, restrained design, now traditionally upholstered in horsehair.

The celebrated design referencing both ancient Greek and Egyptian motifs and reinterpreted by Maison Jansen for the owners rooms of the Longchamp racecourse.

France c 1840

H 98cm x W 55cm x D 64cm

(H 38 ½ x W 21 ½ x D 25 ¼ in)

Provenance: Mallett, London

Private Collection, London

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Whilst the overall appearance of these chairs is of restrained classical simplicity the carefully chosen decoration reference the rich lexicon of early 19th century European arts. The arms issue from a stylised anthemion and meet the legs in a sphere that is supported bu lotus capitals, tapering down to a further band of stylised leaves instead of a sabot.

The form has proven to be one of the most timeless French designs of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, their strong appeal rooted in the excellent proportions and simple geometry.

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