

# Justin Evershed-Martin

Fine Art and Design



A Rare Pair of Wrought Iron Stools attr. to René Prou (1889-1948)

A wonderfully decorative, light and elegant pair of stools, of great scale, the iron frames finely wrought in flowing scrolls and crisply pointed ends.

France 1935

H 68cm (to top of cushion) x W 85cm x D 52cm

(H 26  $\frac{3}{4}$  x W 33  $\frac{1}{2}$  x D 20  $\frac{1}{2}$  in)

Provenance: Mallett, London

Private Collection, London

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Much of Prou's work is mistaken for that of his contemporary René Drouet (1899-1993) but his own oeuvre is distinguished by finer lines and sharper and, arguably more elegant, attenuation, all of which can be seen in the present pair.

A pivotal figure in French design between the wars his mature-work superseded the Art Deco taste and can be characterised by its unusual lightness and poise which prefigured much of that of other designers of the 1950's

Overlooked until recently in comparison to his contemporaries he is the subject of a recent substantial monograph *René Prou Entre Art Déco et Modernisme* by Anne Bony.

