Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Venetian Giltwood Torchère Stand, Circa 1720

£595

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REF: 5666

Height: 130 cm (51.2")

Width: 35 cm (13.8")

Depth: 35 cm (13.8")

Description

Early 18th-Century Venetian Carved Giltwood and Gesso Torchère Stand, Circa 1720

A superb early 18th-century Venetian torchère stand, richly carved in wood and finished in gilt gesso, dating to circa 1720. Elegant, theatrical, and wonderfully decorative, it is a fine expression of the lavish Baroque interiors for which Venice was celebrated.

The tall, sculptural stand was made to support a candle or torch, bringing both light and ornament to an important interior. Its carved decoration is enriched by the warm, softly aged gilding, which has acquired a beautiful depth and character over three centuries. The gilded gesso surface retains an exceptional sense of texture and luminosity, complementing the confident rhythm and movement of the carving.

Venetian decorative arts of the early 18th century are admired for their extraordinary sense of drama and fantasy. Furniture and interior ornament from this period were conceived as part of an immersive whole: gilt surfaces animated candlelight, while fluid carving brought grandeur and movement to salons, palazzi, and ceremonial rooms. This torchère stand captures that spirit perfectly, with a presence that is at once refined and exuberant.

Remarkably, the piece survives in gorgeous original condition, with its historic gilding, surface character, and richly patinated finish intact. These traces of age are integral to its appeal, giving it the authenticity and visual depth that can only be achieved through time.

A rare and highly decorative example of Venetian Baroque craftsmanship, equally compelling as an individual work of art or as part of a pair or larger scheme. It would bring warmth, scale, and unmistakable Italian grandeur to an entrance hall, drawing room, library, or bedroom.

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