

PETIT PALAIS

Step inside apartment 26, on Melbourne's Chapel Street, for an exquisite taste of French decorative art from centuries gone by

partment 26 at 321 Chapel Street is an opulent Parisian salon in the heart of Melbourne's design and fashion precinct. Nothing will prepare you for the experience behind the standard-issue industrial door marked 26. Behind it lies the world of Anton Venoir Interiors, often labelled "Petit Palais", a private salon, where guests are invited to enjoy the elegance and luxury of the latest acquisitions.

Often deemed as a private museum, the decorative arts, fabrics and furnishings pay homage to the French period, which are considered the apogee of elegance and design, which is the way Anton Venoir Interiors has operated for years. Anton Venoir Interiors sells 18th century French decorative arts, Louis XIV, XV and XVI (1643-1792) meaning both the period and, very often, signed and stamped pieces from ebenistes and clockmakers, who often made pieces for monarchs and the royal court.

The effect of perfect pieces, which have been lost in time, and arranged by Tony Venios, is breathtaking. These include an early Louis XV period commode by Francoise Faizelot, Jean-Louis Faizelot Delorme from a French chateau in the Loire Valley (Francoise Faizelot Delorme 1691-1768, Maitre avant 1735, Jean Louis Faizelot Delorme, Maitre 1763).

As important, an 18th century Regence period ormolu-mounted Boulle marquetry bracket clock, signed Jean Godde Laisne, circa 1715. Jean Godde Laisne, 1690-1729, was received as maitre horologer in 1691 and was clockmaker to Louis XIV.

French decorative art reached its peak of excellence during France's ancient régime in the 17th and 18th centuries. For the first and probably the last time, a beautiful Louis XV bureau plat, a great painting, a magnificent Louis XIV tapestry and a Louis XVI canape stood side by side as equals in artistry.

Anton Venoir Interiors collects and sells elegant pieces of the highest quality and nothing else. "We are only interested in perfection," say Tony and Anna Venios, who advise decorative art collectors. "It is much more important to buy one significantly important piece, than several less significant pieces. This has been our model for more than 20 years."



Anton Venoir Interiors, based in Australia and Europe, specialises in fine French antiques, decorative art objects and French interior decoration. Pieces date from the 17th century to the 19th century, Louis XIV, Régence, Louis XV and Louis XVI. The distinguished collection is a selection of the most representative pieces from these periods, which have been created by craftsmen from Paris and Provincial regions throughout France. Each piece in the collection has been carefully studied, assessed and chosen by Tony with Anna.

The authenticity and remarkably preserved condition of each item assures the best investment for antique collectors and home decorators. It would be a pleasure for Anton Venoir Interiors to be your personal expert and supplier of fine antique furniture, decorative arts and interiors of France. APS

ANTON VENOIR INTERIORS

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