

GALERIE LAMY
CHABOLLE



A Pair of Mahogany Console Tables, by Jacob-Desmalter

Mahogany

France

ca. 1835

99 x 134 x 49,5 cm (39 x 52.75 x 19.5 in.)



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A console table of the same model, in mahogany too, with one drawer and *pieds à jarrets*, was shown at the *Chefs-d'œuvre des grands ébénistes* exhibition, Musée des arts décoratifs, Paris, in 1951 (Ledoux-Lebard, 1984, p. 367), to illustrate the best works of the third generation of the Jacob dynasty — that of Georges-Alphonse Jacob-Desmalter, who bore the title “menuisier et fabricant de bronzes du roi et des princes” from Charles X to Louis-Philippe (Ledoux-Lebard, 1965, p. 254). Each of the present tables — *consoles-dessertes*, in technical terms, bears the stamp used by Georges-Alphonse from 1830 onward, and the pair can be dated, like the 1951 console, to about 1835.



Fig. 1. Estampille of Georges-Alphonse Jacob-Desmalter, used from 1830 to 1847, in Denise Ledoux-Lebard, *Les Ébénistes du XIXe siècle. 1795-1889*, Paris, 1984, p. 268.

Georges-Alphonse’s father, François-Honoré Jacob-Desmalter (1770-1841), second son of Georges Jacob (1739-1814), inherited the workshop in 1796 with his brother Georges II (see fig. 2) as *Jacob Frères*, then ran it alone from 1803 as *Jacob-Desmalter et Cie* — principal supplier to the Napoleonic court until the firm’s dissolution in 1813 (Ledoux-Lebard, 1965, pp. 245-253) — before retiring in 1825 in favour of his son and pupil. Georges-Alphonse, who also studied under Charles Percier, whose distinctive anticomaniac style can perhaps be recognised here, sustained that primacy through the Restoration and July Monarchy, until the trade’s drift toward industrial manufacture eroded the personal craftsmanship the Jacob name stood for; he sold the house to Jeanselme in 1847 (Ledoux-Lebard, p. 254).

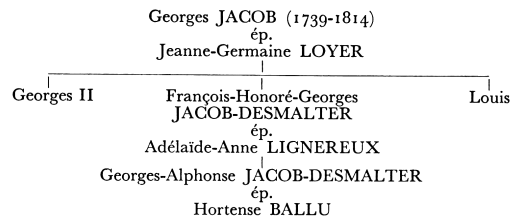


Fig. 2, Family tree of the Jacob dynasty, in
Denise Ledoux-Lebard, *Les Ébenistes du*
XIXe siècle. 1795-1889, Paris, 1984, p. 267.

LITERATURE

See Denise Ledoux-Lebard, *Les Ébenistes Parisiens* du XIXe siècle. 1795-1870, Paris, 1965 and Denise Ledoux-Lebard, *Les Ébenistes du XIXe siècle. 1795-1889*, Paris, 1984

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