Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

After Oliver Messel: Pair of Mid-Century Iron Urn Lamps, Circa 1940

£395

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 7585

Height: 62 cm (24.4")

Diameter: 25 cm (9.8")

Description

A wonderfully theatrical pair of mid-century iron table lamps, designed after Oliver Messel and dating to circa 1940. Taking the form of classical urns, the lamps combine the romance of antiquity with the restrained glamour of British decorative arts in the mid-20th century.

Each lamp is modelled as a sculptural iron urn, its architectural silhouette lending the pair a strong and elegant presence. The dark, textured metal provides a pleasing contrast to the softness of a fabric shade, while the classical form brings a sense of permanence and refinement to an interior. Their balanced proportions and decorative restraint reflect the influence of Messel's distinctive visual language: imaginative, theatrical, and rooted in a sophisticated interpretation of historic design.

Oliver Messel was celebrated as one of Britain's most influential stage and interior designers. His work brought a uniquely romantic, fanciful quality to interiors, often blending neoclassical references with a bold sense of line, texture, and drama. This pair captures that spirit, offering sculptural form and quiet decorative impact without overwhelming a room.

Versatile and highly decorative, these lamps would work beautifully on either side of a console, bedside table, mantelpiece, or library desk. Displayed as a pair, they provide symmetry, atmosphere, and a distinctive mid-century character. An elegant choice for interiors ranging from traditional and neoclassical to eclectic and contemporary.

Rewired with black twisted fabric flex and PAT tested.

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