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THE PHILOSOPHERS: A PAIR OF VENETIAN RELIEF-CARVED STATUARY MARBLE PLAQUES

c.1710, by Francesco Penso, known as Cabianca, (1666-1737)

each plaque carved in deep-relief with the profile portrait of an elderly philosopher, their opposed faces, one in anguish the other in repose, with wild flowing beards and framed with a striped folded cowl,

DIMENSIONS: 42.5cm (16^{3⁄4}") High, 33.5cm (13^{1⁄4}") Wide, 14cm (5^{1⁄2}") Deep, each, as mounted on a display stand

STOCK CODE: 46452



HISTORY

These carved marble reliefs, the heads are approximately life-size – are one of LASSCO's most wonderful discoveries.

Francesco Cabianca (1666-1737) was one the most revered sculptors of Venice at the turn of the 17th and 18th Centuries. His work was commissioned by Louis XIV, Tsar Peter the Great, a number of the great patrons of Venice at the time – such as for the Palazzo Corner – statues for the Venice Arsenal and numerous figures and relief panels for churches across the City.

LASSCO bought the relief plaques from the family of the late Murray Adams-Acton (1886-1971) a London-based Art and Antiques Dealer, Connoisseur, Advisor and Interior Designer who worked in the mid-20th Century in dealing in panelled rooms and early English furnishings and Architectural Salvage for Sir William Burrell and William Randolph Hearst amongst others.

[Click here](#), to read the full story of the discovery of the plaques and their history.