



Symbols of Power: Napoleon and the Art of the Empire Style, 1800-1815

Odile Nouvel-Kammerer

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A landmark in the history of the decorative arts and an essential reference, *Symbols of Power* is a comprehensive look at Napoleon's majestic Empire Style. No ruler in the history of the world has been more aware of the capacity of symbolism to propagate power than Napoleon I; and to support his new vision he sponsored a program of arts that proclaimed France the New Rome.

Superb photographs, many taken expressly for this volume, exhibit gorgeous objects decorated with a wealth of antique motifs—columns, arches, laurel wreathes, acanthus leaves, eagles, Egyptian hieroglyphs—created by master French furniture-makers, silversmiths, jewelers, and porcelain and textile manufacturers. Figures of Fame and Victory abound, and furniture, vases, porcelains, and even silverware display an antique style that projects the aura of imperial majesty.

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