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PAIR OF REFINED EMPIRE-  
STYLE WALL SCONCES,  
PROBABLY DESIGNED BY  
GIOCONDO ALBERTOLLI  
(1742–1839)

Italy, Early 19th Century  
With an elegant structure made of gilded metal. The slender central cylindrical body culminates in a laurel wreath topped by a fully three-dimensional effigy of the imperial eagle, set upon a capital from which hang pointed glass or crystal drops. At the center, two slender curved branches are also adorned with various glass or crystal pendants, resembling icicles. Below, five candle holders with outward-curving arm decorated with matching glass or crystal chains and pendant ornaments in the same style.

*Giocondo Albertolli (1742–1839) was a Swiss-Italian architect, decorator, and engraver, and one of the leading figures of Neoclassical decorative arts. Born in Bedano and trained in Parma and Florence, he worked extensively in Milan, collaborating with Giuseppe Piermarini and teaching ornamental design at the Brera Academy. His decorations and designs for furniture, appliques, and objects in the Empire and Neoclassical styles are known for their elegance and formal precision. He published widely circulated ornamental treatises that influenced the taste of his time. He died in Milan in 1839, leaving a significant artistic and educational legacy.*

