



*Alexandra Alevizatos Kirtley, Peggy A. Olley*  
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## **Classical Splendor: Painted Furniture for a Grand Philadelphia House**

**Alexandra Alevizatos Kirtley, Peggy A. Olley : Classical Splendor: Painted Furniture for a Grand Philadelphia House** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Classical Splendor: Painted Furniture for a Grand Philadelphia House:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent, informative catalog about this remarkable furniture from the ...By MichaelExcellent, informative catalog about this remarkable furniture from the long vanished Waln house in Philadelphia. Very in-depth and seems to include pretty much all that is known about this house and the commission of this interesting and very grand suite of furniture. Ideal for anyone interested in architect Benjamin Latrobe and life and art in the early days of the United States.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Terry D. Romney BerrethA11 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy ChucksterFascinating, complete discussion of the Waln house and furniture.

This handsome book explores in depth a group of stunning painted and gilded furniture designed by the architect Benjamin Henry Latrobe (1764-1820), best known for originating the plans for the United States Capitol. The furniture was made in Philadelphia for one of the city's finest houses—the home of William and Mary Wilcocks Waln, which Latrobe also designed. Drawing on a multiyear conservation and research project, *Classical Splendor* reveals new insights into the patrons, makers, and history behind these extraordinary pieces. In addition to extensively documenting each item, the book attests to Latrobe's significant contributions to American furniture design—his pieces for the Waln house introduced, and served as exemplars of, a classical style rooted in ancient Greek and Roman

design.

About the Author Alexandra Alevizatos Kirtley is the Montgomery-Garvan Curator of American Decorative Arts and Peggy A. Olley is the associate conservator of furniture and woodwork, both at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Jeffrey A. Cohen is senior lecturer and chair of the Growth and Structure of Cities Program at Bryn Mawr College.