

Herter Brothers

Sunflower motif Bronze Lantern

by Christian Herter - late 1860's

Christian Herter of the Herter Brothers was most respected for his elegant furniture. His work covered every aspect of Interior Design, and can be found in the most prestigious of homes, including the White House, and is cherished by Museums and Art Collectors worldwide.

In what was perhaps Herter's most elegant lighting fixture, the Sunflower Lantern was selected for the main entrance to the Herter family 'El Mirasol' estate by his son, the respected artist Albert Herter.

The solid bronze Sunflower Lantern hung at this Herter family estate in Santa Barbara, California from 1908 until 1969. Designed in late 1860's by Christian Herter and executed by artisans in Japan.

Herter is documented working with Japanese artisans, such as the Tokyo firm **Kiritsu Kosho Kaisha** for Herter designed bronze vases in the early 1870's¹.

Entering this Herter mansion, Christian Herter's Sunflower Lantern was the first Herter artwork proudly displayed to their famous guests. Within the mansion, Christian Herter's Sunflower motif wallpaper adorned the walls. The property was named 'El Mirasol' (Spanish for 'Sunflower', 'Flower in the Sun') by his son, Albert Herter, who also designed special Sunflower key-chains for this estate².

The Sunflower Lantern is an archetype to the style that Christian Herter was to develop and become most famous³. Herter's lantern uniquely blends an early use of Herter's Sunflower inlays, mixed with Japanesque themes, which are often found in his masterworks. The Sunflower Lantern is truly an **American Decorative Arts classic** as only Herter could accomplish.

'Elegance and an ornate richness in design, the Christian Herter bronze Sunflower Lantern is a powerful piece of art'. It is 'bold and perfectly proportioned in both scale and elegance, a true Herter masterwork³'.

Standing over 6 feet tall and weighing 90 pounds, this solid bronze Sunflower Lantern was Herter's most elaborate lighting fixture. It has a well-aged bronze patina of over one hundred and forty years. One of its bronze sunflower panels is hinged and opens to access the inner light. Innovative hinged chain-links, screws and slots were used, all made of solid bronze.

The Herter Sunflower Lantern consists of upper/lower elements, with the lower section hanging from Elephant Tusks, surrounded by mystical Japanese Royal TATSU Dragons, and resting upon Water Buffalo. For more details, refer to the HerterArt.com website, or email request for more information, including **new high-resolution DVD movie** on this Herter estate.

¹ 'Herter Brothers, Furniture and Interiors for the Gilded Age', 1994, Katherine S. Howe, Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen, Catherine Hoover Voorsanger. ² The Herter Archetype by Dr A. Friedman, 2006.



CHRISTIAN HERTER

HERTER BROTHERS SUNFLOWER LANTERN

'Letter of Authenticity' by the Herter Family is available, plus photos from 1907 until 1969 of the Herter Sunflower Lantern at this Herter estate.

Herter's Sunflower motif and Asian design themes.



Watch the HERTER ART DVD movie for history on this Herter family estate, with photos of undocumented Herter family art, including this most unique Herter Brothers Sunflower Lantern.

This lantern is 6 feet tall, 90 pounds, and made of solid Bronze, late 1860's. It was displayed proudly at the Herter family estate in Santa Barbara, California.

