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Jean-baptiste (dit Auguste) Clesinger, Silvered Bronze Bust Of Ariadne, Maison Marnyhac, Paris



950 EUR

Signature : Jean-Baptiste (dit Auguste) Clesinger

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état, colonne en marbre usee.

Length : 8cm

Width : 8cm

Height : 22.5cm

Description

JEAN-BAPTISTE, CALLED AUGUSTE  
CLÉSINGER

French

1814-1883

Silvered bronze BUST OF ARIADNE

Signed J. CLESINGER on a shoulder and with  
foundry cachet to the back for Maison Marnyhac,  
1 rue de la Paix

The present bust is a sensuous rendering of  
Ariadne. It can be identified as Ariadne by the  
starry crown, which was fetched by Theseus from  
Thetis' palace under the sea and later thrown  
amongst the stars by Bacchus as the Corona  
Borealis. An important example of French  
Romantic sculpture, the Egyptianate costume in

Dealer

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the necklace and jewelled bodice suggests it is developed from Clésinger's statue of Cleopatra exhibited at the Salon of 1869. The sensuous treatment of the female nude is characteristic of Clésinger, who took pride in carving his own marbles, unlike most atelier sculptors of the period (P. Fusco/H. W. Janson, "The Romantics to Rodin", Los Angeles County Museum, 1980 p. 175). Auguste Clésinger was famous for his mythological, historical, and allegorical busts of which numerous were exhibited at the Salons. Clésinger's erotic female busts were considered shocking by his contemporaries, demonstrating his ability to render beautiful and sensuous women in a realistic manner.

#### RELATED LITERATURE

Estignard, Clésinger: sa vie et ses oeuvres, Paris, 1900, p.168.

R. de Gourmont, Clésinger: Notice Biographique, Catalogue des Oeuvres, Paris, 1903, p. 21.