Sokol-athlete, A Sculpture Of Movement And Strength By Jan Vítezslav Dusek (1891-1966)



22 000 EUR

Signature : Jan Vítezslav Dusek

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Height : 104

Description

Sokol-Athlete by Jan Vítezslav Dusek is a masterpiece of athletic dynamism, national pride, and sculptural ingenuity. Its exuberant motion, expressive anatomy, and symbolic power make it a defining work of Czech modernist sculpture. Created in 1924, this dark patinated bronze sculpture embodies the energy of victorious athleticism and draws deep inspiration from the Sokol movement, a movement that celebrated physical discipline and Czech national identity.The athlete, depicted in a semi-nude state, assumes a triumphant posture, arms raised in an exalted gesture, as if reaching the pinnacle of a long-fought struggle. His precarious balance on one foot, positioned atop a geometric Cubist-inspired base, creates palpable tension and conveys an impression of perpetual motion. The

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influence of Antoine Bourdelle, Dusek's mentor during his studies in Paris, is evident in the anatomical precision and psychological intensity of the figure.The sculpture was created in Tábor and cast at the renowned Franta Anýz foundry in Prague. It gained international recognition when exhibited at the XV Venice Biennale in 1926. It was also awarded a bronze medal at the Art Competition of the Paris Olympic Games in 1924 and a silver medal at the Paris Salon in 1925, solidifying Dusek's prominence in the world of modern sculpture.Sokol-Athlete is more than just a representation of sport; it is a statement on victory, ambition, and the relentless pursuit of human excellence. Its expressive movement, sculptural mastery, and rich symbolic undertones make it a monument not only to physical strength but to the indomitable aspiration of humanity.