



Bronze Statuette "the Docker Of Antwerp" (1890) By Constantin Meunier (1831-1905)



5 000 EUR

Signature : Constantin Meunier (1831-1905)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 22

Height : 49

Depth : 18

Description

The work "The Antwerp Docker" by Belgian social realist sculptor Constantin Meunier (1831-1905) emerged from an initially aborted vision of a monument to labor. The artist, influenced by social realism and Hellenic art, abandoned burdened proletarian figures to immortalize an Antwerp dock worker in 1890. This bronze statue depicts a dockworker in a classical pose, dressed in his work clothes with a neck guard. Far from poverty, the man radiates pride and inner nobility, transformed into a sort of popular deity. The wax sketch was presented in Brussels in 1885, followed by a plaster version in Paris in 1889. The first bronze cast was acquired by the French government in 1890, and other copies were subsequently made for Antwerp (a maritime symbol), as well as Scandinavian,

Dealer

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Bruxelles 1050

Germanic, and South American cities. The original has adorned a bridge in Germany since 1910. A replica, named "The Belgian Stevedore," was presented to a South American nation. The work, rooted in social realism and naturalism, with a symbolic dimension, celebrates the dignity and strength of the worker, elevating manual labor to the status of a noble subject.