



Sculpture - Tiger Devouring A Gharial , Antoine-louis Barye (1795-1875) - Bronze



2 400 EUR

Signature : Antoine - Louis Barye (1795-1875)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 26.5 cm

Width : 10 cm

Height : 11 cm

Description

Bronze group with green patina , representing a tiger devouring a gharial , by the sculptor Antoine-Louis Barye (1795-1875) . The tiger is shown biting the tail of the gharial , the work evokes the most tragic moment of an animal fight , the one where the predator devours its prey which is still defending itself in a last instinct of survival . A turtle placed behind the right front leg of the gharial is seen escaping from the two predators .The 19th century constitutes the golden age of animal bronze . The romantic movement which rejects the order established by the Academy finds in the animal representation an illustration of its revolt . Antoine-Louis Barye , sculptor specialized in the representation of animal fights , is part of this movement . The animal is raised to the rank of subject and no

Dealer

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longer relegated as a simple decorative element .
Signature of the sculptor "BARYE" in hollow ,
on the richly chiseled naturalistic oval terrace .
Sculpture dated "1863" , under the signature . Old
bronze , period second part of the 19th century .
Very good state of conservation and patina .
Dimensions : 11 cm x 26.5 cm x 10 cm
Antoine - Louis Barye (1795-1875) Famous for his animal
sculptures , Antoine-Louis Barye is a
silversmith's son , who is trained in metalwork
with a military equipment manufacturer and
Jacques - Henri Fauconnier. In 1818 , he entered
the Paris School of Fine Arts and apprenticed in
the studio of sculptor François Joseph Bosio and
painter Jean-Antoine Gros . After several failures
at the The Grand Prix of Rome , Antoine-Louis
Barye slammed the door of the Fine Arts in 1825
. He then turned to animal sculpture which he
would bring back up to date . With his friend
Delacroix , he goes regularly to the menagerie of
the Natural History Museum to study and observe
animals . It was in 1831 that Barye made himself
known to the general public by exhibiting "The
Tiger Devouring a Gavial" (Louvre) at the Salon ,
a work staging a violent fight "of impressive
virtuosity" . Two years later , he triumphed with
"The Lion and the Snake" plaster , which was
also successfully exhibited in its bronze version at
the Salon of 1836 . Preferring bronze to marble
considered too cold , the artist multiplied
statuettes and small groups animals, that he melts
and chisels himself . Barye died at the age of 80 ,
leaving behind an important production of
drawings , watercolors and paintings as well as
sculptures , pieces of goldsmith's work . His works
can be seen at the Louvre and Orsay Museums .