



The Wrestlers, Bronze After The Antique, Collas Reduction Stamp, 19th Century



3 800 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 46,5 cm (50 cm avec marbre)

Height : 39,5 cm (43,5 cm avec marbre)

Depth : 28 cm (32 cm avec marbre)

Description

The Wrestlers, bronze with nuanced brown patina, bears the réduction mécanique Collas stamp. This bronze depicts two nude men engaged in pankration, a martial art combining wrestling and boxing, introduced to the Greek Olympic Games in 648 BCE. The upper fighter holds his opponent firmly in a special grip, attempting to execute a guillotine move, which could lead to submission and victory. The work displays great dynamism and reveals a precise study of human anatomy, clearly illustrated by the detailed rendering of the muscles. This bronze is a reduced version after a Roman marble group exhibited at the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, rediscovered in Rome in 1583. That Roman sculpture was itself a copy of a now-lost Greek original. Admired for its striking and realistic

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depiction of combat, the statue was reproduced many times, in various materials, by different artists. One of its most famous copies is undoubtedly that by Philippe Magnier (1647-1715), commissioned by the royal administration for the gardens of Versailles; it is now housed in the Louvre Museum. Bearing the "réduction mécanique Collas" stamp on the base, this bronze was most likely cast by the Barbedienne Foundry. The bronze is presented on a Saint-Remy marble base. XIXth century