



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Portrait Of An Athlete / Academy / Late 19th Century / Charcoal



780 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Paper

Description

Superb academic charcoal drawing - Male portrait linked to physical culture (late 19th century) This striking work is an academic portrait of an athletic young man, probably done in charcoal, at the end of the 19th century (circa 1880-1910). The precise and refined academic style, as well as the classical framing, testify to careful artistic training and a concern for anatomical perfection, characteristic of the studios and academies of this period. The sitter's posture, determined gaze, carefully detailed musculature and the wide leather belt around the waist, immediately evoke the world of physical strength. This connection is reinforced by a small motif in the upper right: two dumbbells, an explicit nod to weightlifting. This decorative element clearly situates the model in the world of

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nascent physical culture, which was in full swing at this time. Indeed, it was at the end of the 19th century that weightlifting and bodybuilding experienced a tremendous boom in Europe. In 1891, the first weightlifting world championships were organized, and the discipline was introduced at the 1896 Olympic Games in Athens. In this momentum, the representation of strong, bare-chested male models became a favored theme, celebrating both the beauty of the body and virile power. 52 x 42 at sight 76 x 66 with frame every beautiful solid wood frame and canvas marie-louise, very neat framing