Surprised Bather - Aimé-jules Dalou (1838-1902)



24 000 EUR

Signature : Dalou
Period : 19th century
Condition : Très bon état
Material : Bronze
Height : 54 cm

Description

A bronze sculpture with a nuanced dark brown patina
Signed
to the rear " Dalou "
A
very fine cast by " Susse Fres "
(with the foundry mark and stamp used for "Susse Frères")

France
model
created around 1899
cast
around 1910

height 54 cm
width 29 cm

Dealer

Galerie Tourbillon
Specialist Sculptures 19th and 20th century, Art Nouveau

15 rue drouot
Paris 75009

depth 26 cm

A similar model reproduced in "Jules Dalou, le sculpteur de la
République", Exhibition held at the Musée du Petit Palais, Paris, 2013,
page 383, n°310.

our web catalog link :https://galerietourbillon.com/dalou-aime-jules-bagneuse-surprise/Galerie Tourbillon : Free valuation - Buy and Sell at best prices

Biography :
Aimé-Jules Dalou, said Jules Dalou (1838-1902) was a French sculptor, born from Protestants glovers craftsmen who raised in
secularism and love of the Republic. Jules Dalou was very young talented for
modeling and drawing, which earned him the attention of Jean-Baptiste Carpeaux,
who made him entered in 1852 in the Little School, the future National School
of Decorative Arts in Paris. In 1854, he was admitted to the School of Fine
Arts in Paris, where he studied painting in the workshop of Abel de Pujol and
sculpture in the workshop of Francisque Duret. He began to earn his living by
working for decorators, and began his friendship with Auguste Rodin. Dalou then
produced decorative sculptures for buildings on major Parisian avenues, such as
the Hotel de la Paiva, on the Champs-Elysees Avenue. He presented but failed
four times to Rome prize competition, but exhibited at the 1869 Salon his
"Daphnis and Chloe" and the "Embroiderer" at the Salon of
1870, two pieces acquired by the French state. Dalou had one child, Georgette,
a girl born with a mental handicap. This is to ensure funding for her
daughter's life accommodation in the Orphanage

of Arts, that Dalou bequeathed
the funds from his workshop to this institution.

After the bloody week of May 1871 Dalou,
his wife and their daughter were threatened as
Communards, forced into exile
and requested asylum. They then joined England
and were greeted by his former
fellows of the Little School, the painter Alphonse
Legros. With Legros, much
introduced in the City, he made a serie of
terracotta statuettes inspired by
boulonnaise peasants or intimate subjects
(readers, lullabies), and portraits
of the English aristocracy. He became professor
for modeling at the National
Art Training School, his influence was decisive
for many British sculptors. He
received orders for a public fountain in marble
titled "Charity"
(1877) near the Royal Exchange in London, and a
monument dedicated to Queen
Victoria's grandchildren located in the private
chapel of Frogmore at Windsor
Castle.

In May 1874, the Paris War Council condemned
Dalou in absentia to hard labor
for life. Having refused to beg for mercy, he was
only in May 1879 being
granted amnesty and his family finally returned
from exile. His group "The
Triumph of the Republic", originally planned for
the Place de la
Republique in Paris, was finally erected on the
Place du Trône, renamed Place
de La Nation in 1880. Dalou devoted twenty
years to the realization of this
monument. The years 1881 and 1882 were
difficult, but the 1883 Salon finally
revealed him to the French public. He exhibited
his two high reliefs: "The
Brotherhood of Peoples" and "Mirabeau
answering Dreux-Brézé",

for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor. Fleeing the world and living in family, Dalou engaged in considerable work and many orders both private and public. For the Universal Exhibition of 1889, was inaugurated on the Place de la Nation the plaster of "The Triumph of the Republic" commissioned by the city of Paris in 1879. Although the bronze version of the group was inaugurated in 1899, this work won the grand prize for sculpture in the exhibition. Dalou left the French Society of Artists in 1890 to expose at the National Society of Fine Arts, of which he was a founding member with Ernest Meissonier, Auguste Rodin and Pierre Puvis de Chavannes. Awarded Knight of the Legion of Honor in 1883, and promoted to officer by President Carnot in 1889, he was elevated to the rank of Commander of the same order in 1899 by President Loubet at the inauguration of the monument of "The Triumph of the Republic".

Dalou had no time to complete his last great project, a monument dedicated to workers, the idea came to him in 1889 after the first opening of "TheTriumph of the Republic". The formality of the ceremony and military parades held the people away from the official event. Dalou was disappointed. True to its republican ideals, he had hoped that this inauguration was an opportunity of great popular democratic party (as it was at the inauguration of the bronze in 1899). His idea was then to pay tribute to the world of workers, craftsmen and peasants with this work being the central subject. At the end of his career Dalou described the project as follows: "I think I have finally found the

monument to the workers that I seek since 1889.
Sober, without molding or
ornament, I wish it'd be severe and imposing.
Will I execute it? There is the
question. I am old and my health is so weak."