



## Study Of A Satyr - Italy, Early 19th Century



2 800 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 7

Height : 14

Depth : 10

### Description

Study of a Satyr

Bronze, cast using the lost-wax (cire perdue) method

Italy, early 19th century

14 x 7 x 10 cm

This evocative bronze sculpture represents a satyr, the half-human, half-goat creature of classical mythology often associated with Dionysian revelry and untamed nature. Cast using the lost-wax method, the figure captures a vivid sense of movement and muscular tension, despite being in an unfinished state--an aspect that offers unique insight into the sculptor's creative process. The satyr is depicted in a crouching or forward-leaning posture, his arms extended

### Dealer

**Dei Bardi Art**

European sculpture and Works of Art

Mobile : +320476740557

12 rue Watteuu

Bruxelles 1000

before him, as if lunging or caught mid-gesture. His facial expression is animated, with sharply defined features--arched eyebrows, a pronounced nose, open mouth, and a pointed beard--conveying intensity and alertness. The upper body is fully realized, anatomically articulated with attention to the curvature of the spine, shoulder blades, and musculature.

In contrast, the lower part of the figure remains rough and incomplete, especially around the hips, thighs, and legs, where textural irregularities and casting traces are clearly visible. The goat-like legs are partially modeled but not fully refined, with evident tool marks and raw surfaces suggesting an interrupted or intentionally preliminary stage. This stark juxtaposition between the polished and the unfinished may indicate that the bronze was a maquette or sculptural study, possibly prepared for a larger or more finished work.

The use of bronze and the precision evident in the completed sections attest to the artist's technical proficiency, while the evident incompleteness invites reflection on the artistic process. It may have functioned as an academic study--used to explore form, pose, and expression--or as a presentation piece to test compositional ideas.

The patina is uneven, consistent with an unpatinated or partially processed cast, ranging from dark brown to reddish-brown tones, with traces of oxidation, especially in the unworked areas. The figure is now mounted on a modern wooden base, offering support and visibility while preserving its fragmentary integrity.

This bronze satyr exemplifies the revival of antiquity in the early 19th century, filtered through a Romantic fascination with expressive, mythological subjects. Its unfinished condition is a compelling feature, providing rare evidence of artistic experimentation and the tactile immediacy of the sculptor's hand.