



Japanese Bronze By Atsuyoshi For The Maruki Factory : Lion

1 600 EUR



Signature : ATSUYOSHI ??

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Bronze

Width : 25 cm

Height : 20 cm

Description

This bronze lion, with its powerful modeling and rich patina, is the work of Atsuyoshi, one of the most refined animal sculptors of the late Meiji era. It was cast by the prestigious Maruki workshop, renowned for its technical precision and its connections with the greatest artists of the period. The lion is depicted lying down but alert, its forequarters raised in a dignified and confident posture that expresses both latent strength and natural grace. The modeling of the head is superbly executed: the broad muzzle, the deeply sculpted whisker pads, and the penetrating gaze create an expressive intensity that immediately recalls the finest animal sculptures of the Meiji era. The mane is rendered with remarkable skill, combining deep furrows with softer, layered textures that catch the light on the dark bronze.

Dealer

Thienpont Fine Art

Japanese antique bronzes and screens - paintings

Mobile : 0032 475 35 09 17

Bruxelles 1000

surface. The anatomical realism of the body--harmonious muscular volumes along the flanks, sinewy forelegs, and precisely contoured paw pads--testifies to the artist's extensive study of exotic fauna, a characteristic of Meiji-era craftsmanship, following Japan's interest in Western zoological models. The gracefully curved tail and the seamless transitions between the chiseled and polished surfaces reflect the technical mastery of the Maruki foundry, whose bronzes are prized for their fine casting and uniform, velvety patina. Atsuyoshi's works are valued for their naturalism, expressive modeling, and sculptural intelligence. Examples bearing his signature and the Maruki workshop seal occupy a prominent place among Meiji-era animal bronzes. Pieces of this quality--medium-sized, powerfully composed, and in excellent condition--are increasingly sought after by collectors of Japanese metalwork, particularly those interested in the golden age of export craftsmanship during the Meiji era. This imposing yet elegantly balanced bronze lion sculpture perfectly illustrates the collaboration between artist and foundryman in late 19th-century Japan. Possessing a noble and serene presence, it is a rare and prestigious addition to any collection of Japanese art or master bronze animal sculptures.