



Pair Of Busts Of Dürer And Rembrandt - Albert-ernest Carrier-belleuse (1824-1887)



4 500 EUR

Signature : Carrier-Belleuse

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Height : 38,5 cm larg. 12 cm

Description

Pair of busts of Albrecht Dürer and
Rembrandt van Rijn

A pair of
silvered bronze busts
Each signed on the back "A. Carrier"
The all reposing on their original red and black
marble bases

France
circa 1860

total height
with the base 38,5 cm
width 12 cm
depth 12 cm

Dealer

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Biography :

Albert-Ernest Carrier de Belleuse known as Carrier-Belleuse (1824-1887)

was one of the most prolific artists of the century and had the greatest

successes under the Second Empire, enjoying the personal support of Napoleon

III. His work was greatly influenced by the style of the Italian Renaissance

and that of the 18th century, which he helped to bring up to date.

In 1837, the young Carrier-Belleuse apprenticed in the workshop of the

engraver Bauchery. He was admitted soon after to the goldsmith Jacques Henri

Fauconnier. Through François Arago, he met the sculptor David d'Angers who

facilitated his admission to the School of Fine Arts. Carrier-Belleuse entered

it in 1840. Noted for his skill by the great bronze companies in Paris such as

Barbedienne and Denière, he soon received numerous orders for models for

candelabras, pendulums, fittings for fireplaces, etc. In 1848, probably at the

initiative of François Arago, who became head of state, he received his first

public order for a small statue of "Mademoiselle Rachel singing La

Marseillaise". In 1851, he appeared for the first time at the Salon of

French Artists, where he presented two bronze medallions. From 1851 to 1855,

Carrier-Belleuse stayed in England, in

Stoke-on-Trent where he served as

director of the modeling and drawing school of the Minton house, a large

porcelain manufacturer.

Back in France, Carrier-Belleuse moved to Paris in a large workshop located 15 rue de la Tour d'Auvergne. From 1857, he made regular sendings to the Salon and became famous thanks to the success of large marbles, such as the "Bacchante" exhibited at the Salon in 1863, and acquired by Napoleon III, "Angelica" (1866) or even "Hebe asleep" (1869). At the Salon of 1867, his group entitled "Messiah" earned him the medal of honor of sculpture. It was acquired by the State to adorn the Chapel of the Virgin in the Saint-Vincent-de-Paul church.

Carrier-Belleuse acquired a great reputation in parallel for his terracotta busts which, in many respects, recall those of 18th century artists. He made portraits of a large number of celebrities of his time. He produced, among others, the busts of Napoleon III, Renan, Thiers, Grévy, Arago, Marguerite Bellanger, Théophile Gautier, Honoré Daumier, Delacroix, Hortense Schneider, Réjane... He also modelled numerous busts of mythological inspiration and historical and artistic portraits like Marie Stuart, Shakespeare or even Mozart.

Carrier-Belleuse used and trained in his workshop in the rue de la Tour d'Auvergne many young talented artists such as Alexandre Falguière, Jules Desbois, Eugène Delaplanche, Jules Dalou or Joseph Chéret; but he was best known for having been the master of Auguste Rodin who entered his studio as a practitioner in 1864.

Carrier-Belleuse devoted himself a lot to decorative sculpture. He contributed to the decorations of many important buildings. We owe him in particular the caryatids of the Renaissance theater in Paris, the pediment of the main entrance to the Banque de France, the stucco ceilings of the Lesdiguières and La Trémoille pavilions at the Louvre Palace, the frieze of the Palais de la Bourse in Brussels, or the decoration of the Hôtel de la Païva on the Champs-Élysées in Paris. He also received State commissions for monuments: that of Jean-Jacques Rousseau in Montmorency, of Alexandre Dumas, in Villers-Cotterêts, of Masséna in Nice. Abroad, he produced the equestrian statue of Michael the brave in Bucharest and the tomb of José de San Martín in Buenos Aires.

In 1873, Carrier-Belleuse took part in the construction of the Paris Opera house, directed by his friend Charles Garnier. He created the two monumental torchieres flanking the grand staircase in the main hall and the caryatids of the chimney of the grand foyer. In 1875, he was appointed director of works of art at the Porcelain Manufacture de Sèvres. He imprinted on it a very modern impulse which manifested itself in the creation of a complete range of vases.