Lucie Signoret Ledieu, Child In Prayer (1884)



900 EUR

Signature : Lucie Signoret Ledieu

Period : 19th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Bronze

Height : 32

Description

Lucie SIGNORET LEDIEU (Nevers 1853 - Arcueil 1904) Child in Prayer 1884 Gilt bronze H. 32 cm Exhibition: Salon of 1884: 3902 - Child in Prayer; study, plaster Literature: Salon des artistes français, Explication des ouvrages (Paris 1884), p. 354 Stanislas Lami, Dictionnaire des sculpteurs de l'École française au dix-neuvième siècle, vol. 4 (Paris 1922), pp. 256-257 Société académique du Nivernais, Mémoires de la Société Académique du Nivernais (Nevers 1902), p. 64 Lucie Signoret Ledieu was born into a working-class family in 1853 in Nevers. A student of the sculptor Jean Gautherin, she exhibited busts, figures, and groups at the Paris Salon between from 1878 to1902. She created large public sculptures, including the Monument to Joan of Arc in Saint-Pierre-le-Moûtier, as well

Dealer

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as smaller figures cast by bronze founders such as Thibaut Frères and Paul Louchet. Although one of the forgotten female sculptors of the generation preceding Camille Claudel, her works can be seen in museums throughout France, notably in Nevers, Clermont-Ferrand, Dijon, Chambéry, and Mulhouse. The plaster model of The Child in Prayer was exhibited at the Salon of 1884, and this bust of a devout child of indeterminate sex is remarkable down to the exquisite fingers and nails. The writer and art critic Octave Mirbeau wrote of Lucie that she was: "a great artist, too little known, alas, and who has, simply, the soul of Donatello. Her 'Child in Prayer' and a 'Bust of a woman' are pure masterpieces." With regard to 'Child in Prayer,'" it is difficult to disagree with Mirbeau. The quality of the bronze is also exceptional, and the founder was probably Paul François Louchet. Lucie was born Marie Lucie Ledieu. After her marriage to François Léon Signoret in 1876, she combined his name with hers, thus becoming
'Signoret-Ledieu'. Sometimes, Lucie, is found as 'Lucienne'.