Bronze Satyr Bust, Vienna, First Quarter Of The 20th Century, Hans Schwathe (attributed)



2 500 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 9,5 cm.

Height : 21 cm.

Depth : 9 cm.

Description

A bronze bust with a brown patina depicting a mocking satyr with pointed ears and a mischievous, not demonic but seductive expression, with a tilted head and an asymmetrical, deliberately ambiguous smile. The overall effect is characterized by vibrant and animated modeling, rich in subtle plays of light across the face, hair, and goatee. The deliberately simple and geometric base, with its clean lines, contributes fully to the overall balance and situates the work within the Central European style situated between Jugendstil and early Modernism, meeting the expectations of an aesthetically discerning public receptive to the most contemporary stylistic trends of its time. The work bears the mark HS in a rectangular cartouche on the side of the base, a foundry or

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workshop mark characteristic of Central European production between the late 19th and early 20th centuries, particularly in the Viennese region. This mark is possibly attributable to Hans Schwathe, or Johannes Schwathe (Strachwitzthal 1870 - Vienna 1950). This type of hallmark is frequently found on decorative and sculptural bronzes associated with the Vienna Secession and late Jugendstil movements, often intended for a refined market, without, however, strictly belonging to academic sculpture. From a typological point of view, both in terms of the form of the bronze bust and the quality of the modeling and patina within the Viennese context, the work shows similarities to the Bust of Emperor Franz Joseph I, dated and signed Hans Schwathe, 1889 (Auktionshaus Mehlis, 2022, lot no. 3625).