



Pierre Brebiette (mantes 1598 - Paris 1650), Cygnus (1655)



500 EUR

Signature : Pierre Brebiette

Period : 17th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Paper

Width : 22

Height : 31

Description

PIERRE BREBIETTE (Mantes-la-Jolie 1598 - Paris 1650) Cygnus 1655 Etching on laid paper
Plate: 26 x 18.5 cm Sheet: 31 x 22 cm Signed on the stone: Brebiette inv IFF 269 Titled Cygnus, this etching is in fact a compilation of figures from Ovid's Metamorphoses: the weeping trees, the Heliades, the inconsolable sisters of Phaethon transformed into poplars; then, with the legs of a man but the body of a swan, the eponymous Cygnus, son of Neptune and also a Trojan almost killed by Achilles, but turned into a swan before dying; on the left in the foreground, a very relaxed Minotaur; and in the centre, a young man leaning against a rock, either dying or already dead. This moving figure has never been definitively identified; some identify him as Phaeton, but to me, he evokes Narcissus.

Dealer

Galerie Jamie Mulherron

Sculptures et peintures du XIXe siècle

Mobile : 0633275009

Lyon 69005

Regardless, this plate from Michel de Marolles' *Tableaux du Temple de Muses* (1665) is one of the finest Ovidian compositions in French art. This etching by Pierre Briebette is very rare; other copies can be found at the Bibliothèque nationale de France and the Herzog Anton Ulrich Museum in Braunschweig.