



Bronze Bust Signed Barbedienne, 19th Century



1 500 EUR

Signature : BARBEDIENNE

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Height : 57 cm

Description

A bronze bust with a brown patina, depicting Voltaire, a major figure of the Enlightenment, after the famous 18th-century model. This important bronze bust of Voltaire boasts a beautiful, aged brown patina. A high-quality cast by Maison Barbedienne (Paris), a renowned 19th-century art foundry, it bears the mark "F. Barbedienne, Fondateur" and the number 39. The modeling and expression are exquisite, creating a striking decorative presence. Late 19th century - Height: 57 cm. The philosopher is portrayed at an advanced age, his face finely modeled, marked by time, with a slight, ironic smile characteristic of his iconography. His gaze is lively and expressive, turned slightly to the right, lending the whole an impression of intellectual vivacity. His thinning hair is held back by a headband, a

Dealer

Galerie Leroy

Antiquaire Généraliste Mobiliers du XVIIIe , XIXe et Objets d'Art

Mobile : 06 46 43 45 93

Remiremont 88200

traditional detail in 18th-century representations of Voltaire. The neck is draped in a soft, elegant drape, falling over the shoulders in a restrained neoclassical style. The bust rests on a circular bronze pedestal, forming a harmonious and well-proportioned whole. The Barbedienne foundry was one of the most prestigious French art foundries of the 19th century, renowned for the exceptional quality of its castings, supplying museums, institutions, and major private collections. This type of bust belongs to the tradition of the 19th-century Neoclassical revival, a period during which the great intellectual figures of the 18th century--Voltaire, Rousseau, Diderot--were widely celebrated. The original model derives from an 18th-century prototype attributed to Jean-Antoine Houdon, whose effigies of Voltaire constitute the most famous and faithful representation.