



## Theseus Fighting The Centaur Bienor - Antoine-louis Barye (1796-1875)

18 000 EUR



Signature : Barye

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 36 cm

### Description

A bronze sculpture with a nuanced dark greenish brown patina

Signed on the base "A-L.

Barye"

Old edition cast - from the Barye's workshop

(made during the artist's lifetime)

France

Period cast made around 1860-1870

height 34,5 cm

length 36 cm

depth 17 cm

### Dealer

**Galerie Tourbillon**

Specialist Sculptures 19th and 20th century, Art Nouveau

15 rue drouot

Paris 75009

A similar model is reproduced in "The Barye Bronzes", Stuart Pivar, England, 1974, p. 69.

our web catalog link

:<https://galerietourbillon.com/barye-antoine-louis-thesee-combattant-le-centaure-bienor/Galerie-Tourbillon> : Free valuation - Buy and Sell at best prices

#### Biography :

Antoine-Louis Barye (1796-1875) was a French sculptor, known for his animal sculptures. His sketch practice done in the wild, according to the animals of the Jardin des Plantes in Paris, led him gradually to also practice painting.

Placed early in Fourier, an engraver on steel manufacturing metal parts for the uniforms of the Great Army, he learned all areas of metal processing and became a peerless worker. He entered the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris in 1818, where he received classical training in the workshop of the sculptor François Joseph Bosio and the painter Antoine-Jean Gros. He graduated in 1820, the second prize for sculpture in Rome for his "Cain cursed by God". It was in 1831

that Barye became known to the public exhibiting then his "Tiger devouring a Crocodile", tormented and expressive work, which ranked as soon as the first Romantic sculptor, and causing admiration criticism. He now produced numerous masterpieces, often of small dimensions, that will enrich the collections of fans on both sides of the Atlantic.

In 1833, Barye exhibited at the Salon his "Lion and Serpent", a king's command to the Tuileries Gardens, an allegory of the monarchy crushing sedition, three years after the

July Revolution.

Critics are enthusiastic but it's not necessarily the case of his colleagues.

In total contrast to the supporters of the academy who then ruled the

Institute, Barye opened a foundry and edited himself his production, using

modern techniques of his time. Like the Romantic artists of his time, Barye

appreciated the exotic and the Middle Ages. He preferred bronze to marble

because too cold. The style of Barye settled down from 1843. He gave his human

figures inspired by Greek models, such as the bronze group of "Theseus and

the Centaur Biénor", an energy and a movement specific to the romantic

vision .

Barye's Republican ideas do not prevent him from binding with

Ferdinand-Philippe d'Orléans, for whom he made a table centerpiece. He became

one of the favorite sculptors of Napoleon III, under whose reign he produced

monumental works such as "Peace", "Strength", "War" and "The Order" for the decoration of the

new palace

of the Louvre and an equestrian statue of the emperor for the gates of the

Louvre. Despite his business and practice of art that confused members of the

Institute, they finally welcome within them in 1868, and Barye knew recognition

in the last ten years of his life.