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Henri-louis Levasseur (1853-1934) "the Shepherd's Star" Large Bronze



4 800 EUR

Signature : (1853-1934)
Period : 19th century
Condition : Très bon état
Material : Bronze
Width : 28 cm
Height : 94 cm

Description

Provenance
Large bronze sculpture entitled The Shepherd's Star, by Henri-Louis Levasseur (1853-1934), a French sculptor active during the late 19th and early 20th century. The work bears the signature H. Levasseur on the base, together with the title Étoile du Berger and the inscription Hors Concours. Levasseur is known for allegorical, mythological and idealised female figures, in keeping with the French academic sculptural tradition of the late 19th century.
Description
The sculpture depicts a standing female figure, lightly turned, raising one arm to hold a gilded star. Beside her appears a crescent moon, directly connected to the title The Shepherd's Star, a poetic reference to the celestial body traditionally

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associated with Venus. The composition is built around an elongated and elegant silhouette, animated by the movement of the drapery wrapped around the body and falling in supple folds around the hips and legs. The face, gently inclined, has a calm and idealised expression, characteristic of French academic sculpture of this period. Particular attention is given to the hair, veil, belt and drapery, whose textured treatment contrasts with the smoother modelling of the figure. The circular base, with a cartouche bearing the title, is completed by a textured upper surface evoking rocky or celestial ground.

Technique and materials

Cast bronze with a nuanced brown patina, enriched by gilded elements on the crescent moon and the star. The casting shows fine detail, especially in the face, hands, hair and draped fabric. The contrast between the brown patina and the gilded attributes reinforces the symbolic character of the subject and gives the sculpture a strong decorative presence.

Dating

France, late 19th century. This dating is consistent with the academic modelling, allegorical iconography, decorative treatment and inscribed circular base, all characteristic of French bronze sculpture from this period.

Condition

Good overall condition. The bronze retains an aged and nuanced patina, with light wear, small surface marks, traces of oxidation and natural tonal variations consistent with age and decorative use. The composition remains complete and visually legible, with a strong overall presence.

Function and display

Due to its large scale and allegorical subject, this bronze is suitable as a statement decorative piece in a classical, eclectic or collector's interior. It may be displayed on a console, pedestal, in a gallery setting or in a reception room.

Dimensions

height - 94 cm

width - 28 cm
base diameter - 24 cm