



Standing Male Figure With Crossed Legs -- Bronze With A Brown Patina, Italy, 16th Century



1 200 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Height : 14cm

Description

Bronze statuette with a brown patina, depicting a young naked man standing in a relaxed pose. The body is slightly twisted in a serpentine manner; the head is tilted and turned toward the right shoulder, with the gaze lowered. The right arm hangs down alongside the body; the left arm is folded across the abdomen, the hand cupped, suggesting that an attribute--a cup, a bunch of grapes, or a similar object--was originally held there. The legs are crossed at mid-calf, the feet together. This position, unstable by nature, implies a support that has since disappeared: a tree trunk, a column, or a decorative element. An elongated figure, with a small head, long neck, narrow shoulders, and a synthetic, minimally defined torso. Only the hair, in broad, wavy locks swept back, shows detailed carving. The motif of

Dealer

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the naked young man at rest, with crossed legs and leaning against a support, belongs to the repertoire produced by workshops in Northern Italy and Tuscany during the second half of the 16th century, where it was used interchangeably to represent Bacchus, a youthful satyr, or a genius. These small bronzes were intended for both private collections and decorative objects (andirons, inkwells, and furniture finials). In the absence of the original attribute, the precise identification of the subject remains open to interpretation. Mounted on a modern patinated bronze base, square in plan with chamfered edges and no decoration--a meticulous piece of recent workmanship, distinct from the artwork itself.