



PROANTIC
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Bronze Sculpture, Signed By The Sculptor Paul Ludwig Kowalczewski (1865-1910)



175 EUR

Signature : Kowalczewski

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Height : 20

Description

This is a small genre sculpture in bronze, created by the sculptor Paul Ludwig Kowalczewski (1865-1910), as evidenced by the signature "P. Kowalczewski" on the bronze base.

Kowalczewski was a sculptor active around 1900, known for his realistic and narrative genre figures, in the academic style of the late 19th century and the Belle Époque--comparable to contemporaries such as Ernest Rancoulet or Émile Picault, who produced small bronze works intended for bourgeois interiors. The sculpture depicts a young reaper (farm laborer), dressed in a simple shirt, loose-fitting pants, and a wide-brimmed hat, carrying a scythe over his shoulder and holding a basket or a gourd in his other hand. The figure is captured in a dynamic, walking pose, his head turned to the side, evoking

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a moment in peasant life--a theme highly prized in 19th-century decorative sculpture, which idealized rural and "honest" labor. The bronze features a dark, warm patina, accented by lighter, almost golden tones on the folds of the clothing and the hat--a finishing technique typical of the period, intended to highlight the details. The figure rests on a naturalistically modeled rocky pedestal, which in turn is mounted on a rectangular base of veined reddish-brown marble (of the breccia type), giving the piece as a whole a refined appearance. In terms of dimensions, this is a small tabletop sculpture (comparable examples of this composition--known as "The Reaper" / "The Harvester"--are generally about 20 cm tall), typical of decorative bronzes intended for mantelpieces or display cases from the fin-de-siècle period (circa 1890-1910).