



18th-century Wood Sculpture: "woman Sowing"



1 000 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Painted wood

Width : 17 cm

Height : 43 cm

Depth : 10 cm

Description

A charming sculpture in a pastoral style, depicting a "woman sowing" clad in light drapery, which she gathers with her left hand to hold the seeds she is about to scatter.

Notable features include the gentle expression of her face, the fluid grace of her posture, and the elegance of her hair, styled in a chignon with large curls.

The 18th-century allegory of a woman sowing seeds emerged at the intersection of the philosophical and aesthetic shifts characterizing the Age of Enlightenment.

She can be interpreted as an allegory

Dealer

Gérardin

Antiquaire Expert de Père en Fils Depuis 1949

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of Nature and Agriculture (reflecting
Physiocracy--a school of
thought holding that land and agriculture
constitute the only true
source of wealth).

Associated with Cybele or Ceres, she
embodies the nurturing earth.

She can also be viewed as an allegory
for education and the dissemination of
Enlightenment ideals. In this
context, she becomes a metaphor for instruction,
spreading the "seeds
of knowledge" to dispel ignorance. This was the
era of Diderot
and d'Alembert's *Encyclopédie*; here, sowing
signifies
cultivating the human mind.

By contrast, in the 19th century, the
"Sower" (*la Semeuse*) would become a symbol
of liberty,
scattering not wheat or flowers, but the principles
of equality
inherent in republican ideals (such as Oscar
Roty's *Semeuse*).

Dimensions: H 43 cm x W 17 cm x D 10 cm

France

Linden wood

18th century