



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

P.j. Mêne 1810-1879 Bronze: Horse At The Gate, 1846

1 800 EUR



Signature : P.J. Mêne 1810-1879

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 38,6 cm

Height : 29,6cm

Depth : 14,1 cm

Description

P.J. Mêne, 1810-1879 Bronze "Horse at the Gate," signed and dated 1846 on the base; brown patina with minor wear; attractive, very dynamic sand-cast piece, circa 1860 Pierre-Jules Mêne, a French sculptor born in Paris on March 25, 1810; died in Paris on May 20, 1879. He is considered one of the leading figures in 19th-century animal sculpture. He was the father-in-law of the sculptor Auguste Cain (1821-1894), with whom he collaborated. His first profession was modeling subjects for; however, he also spent a significant amount of time in the botanical garden, from which he brought back sketches and small animal models. Just as Antoine-Louis Barye would do a year after him, it was in 1838--the year of his first participation in the Paris Salon--that he established his own foundry, which he

Dealer

Y. Laurent Hogommat

Sculpture

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personally directed until 1877. It was described as a gathering place for artists and writers, frequented by Alexandre Dumas, among others. There, he personally worked on casting and engraving to produce his own works, to which were later added those of his son-in-law, Auguste Cain. He produced numerous animal sculptures, which were particularly in vogue during the Second Empire, as were those by Antoine-Louis Barye and Auguste Cain. Mène specialized in small-scale bronzes and did not produce works for public sculpture. His animal subjects enjoyed immense popular success and were produced in very large numbers. As the exclusive publisher of his works, the perfection of his productions was widely recognized, and he proved, along with Barye, to be the artist whose success was the most consistent over the longest period. Mène emerged as one of the finest practitioners of his time and created his models in wax. After the deaths of Pierre Jules Mène and Auguste Cain, the Susse foundry purchased the reproduction rights to his work and continued to produce it.