



Costantino Barbella (1852-1925) - Important Signed Bronze Bust Of A Woman



3 800 EUR

Signature : Costantino Barbella

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Bronze

Width : 34

Height : 66

Depth : 34

Description

An important and refined bronze bust of a woman by Costantino Barbella (Chieti, 1852 - Rome, 1925), one of the most significant Italian sculptors of the second half of the nineteenth century and the early decades of the twentieth century, particularly renowned for his depictions of the female figure and for the sensitivity with which he was able to translate the character, customs, and identity of his native Abruzzo into sculpture. The sculpture is striking first and foremost for its monumental dimensions, standing 66 cm tall--a significant and uncommon scale in Barbella's body of work, as he is known primarily for his small- and medium-sized compositions in bronze and terracotta. The figure depicts a young woman with a finely modeled face, characterized by an elaborate hairstyle and

Dealer

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richly ornamented clothing, rendered with great attention to detail. Particularly striking is the abundance of decorative elements that embellish the composition, with contrasts between the deep, dark patina of the bronze and the parts with a luminous golden finish. Of particular note is the artist's signature, "C. Barbella," which appears directly on the sculpture and constitutes an element of great interest for the work and its attribution. The presence of the signature, combined with the quality of the modeling and the figure's strong characterization, makes this piece particularly appealing to collectors of 19th-century Italian sculpture. Trained at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Naples under the guidance of Stanislao Lista, Barbella was encouraged early in his career by Francesco Paolo Michetti, with whom he established a relationship of friendship and collaboration. His work was also appreciated internationally: he participated in major European exhibitions, and in 1894 he was commissioned to organize the Italian section at the World's Fair in Antwerp. His art, initially strongly tied to the depiction of daily life and the common people of Abruzzo, is characterized by vibrant modeling, a particular attention to facial features and clothing details, and a marked sensitivity in the rendering of the female figure. A work of remarkable visual impact, enhanced by the artist's signature and its substantial size, capable of immediately conveying the quality and character of Italian sculpture between the 19th and 20th centuries. Costantino Barbella (Chieti 1852 - Rome 1925) Female bronze bust Patinated bronze with gilded details Signed "C. Barbella" Height: 66 cm Width: 34 cm Depth: 34 cm