



PROANTIC

LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

F. Faivre: "the Cat Transformed Into A Woman," Patinated Bronze Sculpture, Circa 1900



2 200 EUR

Signature : Ferdinand Faivre

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Length : 27,5 cm

Height : 14 cm

Depth : 11,5 cm

Description

Ferdinand FAIVRE (1860-1937, France): "The Cat Transformed into a Woman" Bronze sculpture with a nuanced brown patina depicting a reclining nude woman Dimensions: Height 14 x Depth 11.5 x Width 27.5 cm Early 20th century - Art Nouveau period (circa 1910) Good condition
Note: Sculpture inspired by Jean de La Fontaine's fable "The Cat Transformed into a Woman." This work is the eighteenth fable in Book II of the first collection of *La Fontaine's Fables*, published in 1668: "A man loved his cat madly, He found her cute, beautiful, and delicate, She meowed in a very sweet tone: He was crazier than the craziest of men. So this man, through prayers and tears, through spells and charms, did everything he could until he persuaded Fate to turn his cat, one fine morning, into a woman; and that very

Dealer

Collection's

XIX & XXth Bronze Sculpture

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morning, the foolish master made her his wife.
Now he is mad with extreme love, Just as he had
once been mad with friendship. Never has the
fairest lady Charmed her lover so much As this
new wife Charms her hypochondriac husband. He
coaxes her, she flatters him; He no longer sees
her as a cat at all, And taking his delusion to its
extreme, Believes her to be a woman in every
way and everywhere, Until some mice gnawing at
the mat Disturbed the newlyweds' pleasure. At
once the woman is on her feet. She missed her
chance. Mice, come back; woman, get into
position. This time, she rushed in just in time; For
having changed her appearance, The Mice feared
her not at all. This was always a lure to her, So
great is the power of nature. It mocks everything
once a certain age is reached. The vessel is
saturated; the fabric has taken its shape. In vain
do they try to wean him from his usual ways. No
matter what one might do, one could never
reform him. Neither blows with a pitchfork nor
stirrups Can make him change his ways; And
even if you were beaten with a stick, You'll never
be his masters. "If you shut the door in its face, it
will come back through the windows."