PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Capitoline Antinous - 19th-century Patinated Stucco Bust By August Gerber, Cologne



1 800 EUR

Signature : August Gerber

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Stucco

Width : 29 cm

Height : 58 cm

Depth : 23 cm

Description

Antinous of the Capitol - 19th-century patinated stucco bust by August Gerber, Cologne Material: Patinated stuccoOrigin: Cologne, GermanyDate: Second half of the 19th centuryDimensions: Height 58 cm, width 29 cm, depth 23 cmManufacturer: Sculpturen-Museum August Gerber, CologneMarkings: Original studio plaque on the reverse Description A 19th-century patinated stucco bust depicting the Capitoline Antinous, finely executed by the renowned Sculpturen-Museum August Gerber in Cologne, Germany. This reproduction of an ancient sculpture depicts Antinous as an idealized young man, his head slightly tilted and turned to the side, reflecting the harmonious proportions and refined naturalism associated with classical Roman sculpture.The delicately modeled facial

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features and smooth surfaces contrast with the finely sculpted hair, composed of dense, deeply chiseled, and openwork curls. These elaborate details create pronounced chiaroscuro effects, lending depth and expressiveness to the composition. The bust tapers to a gracefully curved profile at the shoulders and chest and rests on an integrated back support and a molded circular base.The sculpture retains its original-style patinated stucco finish, designed to evoke the appearance and visual qualities of ancient sculpture.Historical Context: The Capitoline Antinous This antique stucco bust is a reproduction of the famous Capitoline Antinous, an ancient Roman sculpture traditionally identified as depicting Antinous, the young favorite of Emperor Hadrian, and housed in the collections of the Capitoline Museums in Rome.The Capitoline Antinous became an important model for reproductions of classical sculptures, particularly in the 19th century, when European museums, fine arts academies, and private collectors increasingly sought faithful casts of famous Greek and Roman antiquities.These reproductions played a significant role in the study of classical art, providing accessible examples of ancient sculptural techniques, idealized human proportions, and artistic traditions. They were also appreciated as decorative works, bringing the aesthetics of classical antiquity into refined interiors and scholarly collections.August Gerber and the Sculpturen-Museum in Cologne The original workshop label, affixed to the reverse, identifies this bust of Antinous from the Capitoline Museums as a production of the Sculpturen-Museum August Gerber in Cologne, a renowned German workshop specializing in high-quality reproductions of major European sculptural works.Active in the 19th century, August Gerber's workshop was known for its meticulously executed sculptural casts, which reproduced works from Europe's leading museum collections. The workshop supplied reproductions

for university teaching, museum reference collections, and decorative purposes.Gerber's works were distinguished by their attention to sculptural detail and the application of specialized surface finishes designed to mimic the materials and appearance of the original works of art.The preserved maker's plate bears the following inscription:SCULPTUREN-MUSEUMAUGUST GERBERKÖLN A/RH. COLOGNEGES. GESCH. - DÉPOSÉREGISTEREDThe notation Ges. Gesch. - Déposé / Registered refers to the commercial registration or protection of the design rather than to the signature of a specific sculptor. The original plaque clearly attests that the bust was produced by August Gerber's workshop in Cologne.A 19th-century reproduction of a classical sculpture Combining refined modeling, an elaborate patina, and a documented attribution to a workshop, this antique bust of Antinous from the Capitoline Museums by August Gerber is a representative example of the 19th-century European tradition of reproducing classical sculpture.Its imposing dimensions, meticulous craftsmanship, and historical connection to the Sculpturen-Museum in Cologne make it an attractive piece for collectors of 19th-century sculpture, reproductions of classical antiquities, antique plaster casts, and European decorative arts.