Decorative Bronze Depicting Psyche Holding A Butterfly, After A Sculptural Group By Antonio Can



2 700 EUR

Signature : d'après Antonio Canova (1757 - 1822)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 10 cm

Height : environ 31.5 cm

Depth : 10 cm

Description

The Italian sculptor Antonio Canova (1757-1822) was arguably the most significant Neoclassical sculptor of the second half of the 18th century. As the creator of the marble sculpture *Psyche Revived by Cupid's Kiss*--housed at the Musée d'Orsay in Paris--Canova single-handedly revived the virtuosity of ancient Greek sculpture. Acclaimed in France both before and after the French Revolution, he notably sculpted the famous *Venus Victrix*, which features the likeness of Pauline Bonaparte, Napoleon's sister. The Louvre holds a lesser-known but equally remarkable marble group: *Cupid and Psyche Standing*. Sculpted in 1797--fulfilling a commission placed by Colonel John Campbell in 1787--the piece remained in Canova's studio until 1800. It was subsequently acquired by Joachim

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Murat, who displayed it in 1801 at his château in Villiers-la-Garenne (Neuilly-sur-Seine). Seven years later, Murat traded the work to Napoleon I in exchange for annuities in the Kingdom of Naples, which led to its inclusion in the Louvre's collections. This bronze takes the figure of Psyche from that group; the butterfly--her attribute--is held in her own hand rather than in Cupid's. The balance remains perfect. The *contrapposto* and the exquisite drapery of the original marble enhance the line of the shoulders and the graceful carriage of Psyche's head. This bronze is in perfect condition and rests on a marble base, which is also in excellent condition.

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Dimensions:

Height: approximately 31.5 cm
Width: 10 cm
Depth: 10 cm

Price: EUR2,700

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