Saint Louis On His Throne - Henri Levasseur, 1853-1934



2 250 EUR

Signature : Henri Louis LEVASSEUR 1853-1934

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Bronze

Width : 22

Height : 42

Depth : 24

Description

DimensionsHeight: approx. 42 cmWidth: approx. 22 cmDepth: approx. cmSignatureSigned on the pedestalMarked "12 LX" and bearing the foundry's stamp on the back of the sculptureMaterialBronze with a triple patina: verdigris, brown, and gilded.NoteA few scratches on the back of the throne, at the rear of the sculptureNovember 29, 1226 - November 29, 2026800th anniversary of the coronation of Louis IXSaint Louis holds a very special place in French historiography. King at age twelve, a prisoner in Egypt at thirty-five, killed near Tunis at fifty-six, and canonized by the Church 27 years later, this Capetian king is the quintessential embodiment of the Christian and just king. A king of justice and fairness, he stood up for the weak against the abuses of the powerful. He laid

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the foundations of the modern, centralized state by developing royal investigations and limiting private wars. A model of piety and holiness, he founded numerous religious institutions (including the Hospice des Quinze-Vingt for the blind) and practiced charity by washing the feet of the poor. Canonized by Pope Boniface VIII in 1297, he became the patron saint of France. He embodied the chivalrous and pious spirit of the Crusades by leading the Seventh and Eighth Crusades, even though he was taken prisoner during the Seventh Crusade and died near Tunis before achieving the objectives of the Eighth Crusade...Louis IX, the Holy King, represents for us French people the myth of the golden age of monarchy, an idealized period of peace, faith, and goodgovernance...Henri LEVASSEUR depicted Saint Louis as a peaceful and just ruler, dressed in his court attire. Wearing the royal crown, the King sits on a throne decorated with trefoil arches and Gothic motifs, in a solemn pose. His gaze, turned to the right, and the serious expression on his face lend the sculpture a contemplative and dignified air.Louis IX wears a long tunic cinched at the waist by a belt from which hangs a short sword, as well as supple boots. A loose-fitting cloak, lined with ermine, embroidered with fleurs-de-lis, and fastened across his chest, envelops his shoulders and falls heavily to the floor. One can also admire the sumptuous fluidity of the drapery, perfectly rendered by Henri LEVASSEUR. His right hand rests firmly on the armrest of the throne, while his left hand, held down, delicately holds the folds of his cloak. His feet rest on a cushion.The triple patina adds subtle nuances, blending the warm brown of the tunic and throne with the verdigris and golden hues of the cloak and ornaments.Typical of the historical and decorative sculpture of the Belle Époque, this work illustrates the era's taste for an idealized Middle Ages and great French national figures.To learn more: https://www.lestresorsdegamaliel.com/accueil/566-saint-louis-sur-son-trone.html