

SA1027989

Magnificent Antique (ca. 1900) Austrian Cold-Painted Bronze Lizard by Franz Bergman

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1027989****Date of manufacture: 1900**

Dimensions

Height = 7 cm (2.8")

Width = 24 cm (9.4")

Depth = 23 cm (9.1")

Description

A striking study of a large curled lizard with excellent naturalistic cold-painted colour and fine hand-finished detail (such as inlaid eyes) by Franz Xavier Bergman (1861-1936). Signed with the Bergman 'B' in an amphora vase, numbered (4133) and stamped 'Geschützt' (registered). Measures 22cm (8.5in) x 21cm (8.25in) x 7cm (2.75in), weight 850g. Lovely original condition with very little wear - no damage or repairs. Franz Bergman is the most famous of the Viennese cold-painted bronze artists, celebrated for his superb attention to detail and wonderful vibrant colours. His father (also Franz Bergman, 1838-1894) was a professional chaser (embosser) from Gablonz (Austria) who moved to Vienna and founded a small bronze factory in 1860. Franz Xavier inherited the company and opened a new foundry in 1900, where he created numerous cold-painted bronze figures, whereby cast bronzes were decorated in several layers of polychrome 'dust paint.' The layers weren't fired to fix them to the bronzes, hence they are 'cold-painted' (a process that has since been lost).

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Seller Details

Antik Dragon Japanese & Other Fine Art

Bath Somerset United Kingdom



Tel: 07975 614592

International Tel: +44 7975 614592