

SA225745

Paul Gayrard. Rare 19th
Century Bronze Figure.
"Monkey Rider" with Marble
Base

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA225745

Date of manufacture: 1800

Description

Paul Joseph Raymond Gayrard (1807 - 1855). A Superb Rare 19th Century French Patinated Bronze Figure "Monkey Rider". Depicting a monkey riding a racehorse being startled by a dog. Height 13 cms. Width 15 cms. Signed "Gayrard", with Foundry Inscription "Boyer". Mounted on a marble base. This piece was cast in 1846 and is in superb pristine condition. The intricacy of the sculpting is extraordinary. Paul Gayrard studied at an early age under his sculptor/engraver father Raymond Gayrard. He first exhibited at the Paris Salon in 1827 and continued to submit works throughout his lifetime winning a Second Class Medal in 1834 and a First Class Medal in 1846 for "The Monkey Steeplechase". His last recorded exhibit was in 1855. He was very successful among the more wealthy of French high society and executed many busts of the notables of the day but he also had a considerable talent for animal modelling. His known bronze animal models date from the years 1846 until 1848. In the middle of the 19th Century there was a surge in bronze sculptures of animals doing human tasks. Christophe Fratin created his humanized bears being lamp lighters, dentists and even reading books. Paul Ga...

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