

SA372610

Fine C19th carved alabaster sculpture study after the antique of Lucretia , modelled as a sleeping Ariadne .

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA372610

Date of manufacture: 1870

Dimensions

Height = 25 cm (9.8")

Width = 30 cm (11.8")

Depth = 12 cm (4.7")

Description

Fine C19th carved alabaster sculpture study after the antique of Lucretia , modelled as a sleeping Ariadne . Raised upon a classically decorated architectural plinth , the study of the mortally wounded Lucretia in Roman period costume depicting Ariadne . The story from early Roman history of the rape of Lucretia by Sextus Tarquinius and her subsequent suicide was a popular subject in Renaissance art . Lucretia is shown lain upon an upholstered day-bed with a dagger by her side , the self-inflicted suicidal wound to her breast. Lucretia was a legendary Roman matron whose fate played a role in the transition from a Roman Kingdom into a Roman Republic. Her suicide after being raped by an Etruscan king's son, Tarquinius, was an immediate cause of the anti-monarchist rebellion that overthrew the monarchy. The incident kindled the flames of dissatisfaction over the tyrannical methods of the last King of Rome , Lucius Tarquinius Superbus . As a result of its sheer impact , the rape itself became a major theme in European art and literature. The marble original was purchased by Pope Julius II in 1512 and installed in the Belvedere Courtyard, where it remains today in the Va...

Internal Ref: ML 1511

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