

SA397754

Fine pair of C19th Italian
'Grand Tour' souvenir carved
alabaster lions after Antonio
Canova.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA397754

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 27.9401 cm (11.0")

Width = 17.78 cm (7.0")

Depth = 10.16 cm (4.0")

Description

Fine pair of C19th Italian 'Grand Tour' souvenir carved alabaster lions after Antonio Canova . Excellent quality pair of carved lions originally sculpted by Antonio Canova (1757-1822) for the monumental tomb of Pope Clement XIII in St.Peter's Basilica ,Vatican City, Rome in 1792. The original lions were carved by Canova from travertine marble , whilst copies were carved in the workshops of Rome from various marbles and stones for sale to 'Grand Tourists' ,as souvenirs from their classical tour and visit to the Eternal City. Shown reclined on block bases , one lion is depicted sleeping , whilst the other is vigilant ; a detail said to represent the Pope's moderation and vigilance respectively. Skilfully carved in alabaster with excellent true detail , the pair are mounted on Belgo Nero black marble bases. Great detail to mane ,face and bodies ,in accurate representation of the originals .The alabaster bodies have the appearance and colour of the the prized Carrara marble as used by the leading Renaissance and neo-classical sculptors. Excellent condition and of good scale ,with minor nicks to the square edges of the alabaster bases. No breaks ,losses or repairs. Exa...

Internal Ref: ML 105

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