

SA399234

Late C19th Italian miniature bronze 'Grand Tour' souvenir , after the antique, "Mercury Resting".

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA399234

Date of manufacture: 1890

Dimensions

Height = 10.16 cm (4.0")

Width = 12.7 cm (5.0")

Depth = 10.16 cm (4.0")

Description

Late C19th Italian miniature bronze 'Grand Tour' souvenir , after the antique, "Mercury Resting". Mounted upon a bevel-edged fossil marble base ,a miniature study of Mercury or Hermes , messenger of the Gods, resting upon a rocky outcrop. Depicted naked ,feet shod with his winged sandals or 'talaria' , ready for flight ,and a scrolled missive clutched in his left hand . The Roman version ,after the Hellenistic original , was discovered at the Villa Dei Papyri , Herculaneum in 1758 and now exhibited at the Museo Nazionale Archeologico in Naples, Italy. Widely admired by the 'Grand Tourists' of the 18th and 19th centuries , it is one of the most celebrated sculptures of antiquity. A well-cast miniature desk-top study or paper-weight. Base 5" X 4" Figure 4" high Italy c.1890

Internal Ref: ML164

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