

SA435800

Late C19th Italian Neapolitan bronze bust study of Seneca , after the antique, known as the "Pseudo Seneca".

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA435800

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 45 cm (17.7")

Width = 23 cm (9.1")

Depth = 23 cm (9.1")

Description

Late C19th Italian Neapolitan bronze bust study of Seneca , after the antique , known as the "Pseudo Seneca". Arresting bronze study known as the "Psuedo Seneca" , after the Roman 1st century BCE original , having been excavated at ill-fated Herculaneum from the site of the Villa of the Papyri in 1754. The Papyrus Villa belonged to Lucius Calpurnius Piso Caesoninus , father-in-law of Julius Caesar , and was buried by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 . Originally thought to depict Seneca the Younger , Lucius Annaeus Seneca , the notable Roman philosopher, because it was assumed the bust's emancipated features were supposed to reflect his Stoic philosophy . However latterly ,scholars now believe it to be a fictitious portrait , either Hesiod or Aristophanes. The head study displays a remarkable quality of workmanship with the casting of the accentuated wrinkles and folds of the face and forehead of the man . The intentionally unruly locks of his hair and wrinkly neck contrast openly with the unwavering , penetrating gaze . Almost certainly a bronze cast in Naples and probably by the Chiurazzi Foundry , who were licensed to produce high-quality bronze copies such as...

Internal Ref: ML 1811

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