

SA507955

Late C19th Italian 'Grand Tour' souvenir bronze reduction , after the antique, by Sommer Foundry, Naples.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA507955

Date of manufacture: 1890

Dimensions

Height = 46 cm (18.1")

Width = 41 cm (16.1")

Depth = 28 cm (11.0")

Description

Late C19th Italian 'Grand Tour' souvenir bronze reduction of "Mercury Resting" , after the antique, by Sommer Foundry, Naples. Impressive larger scale bronze study of Mercury or Hermes , messenger or herald of the gods , portrayed resting on a rocky outcrop. The bronze depicts the Greek god Hermes or Mercury to the Romans , nude except for his winged sandals or talaria , a message scroll in his left hand . A Roman adaptation of a Greek work of the 4th or 3rd Century B.C, the bronze was discovered at Herculaneum in 1758 having been buried in the city by the eruption of Vesuvius . The statue is now preserved in the Museo Archeologico Nazionale in Naples. In excellent original condition, has a consistent dark patination. Signed to the rear edge by "Sommer, Napoli" . The Foundry of Giorgio Sommer were well respected in the casting and production of quality reductions of important classical sculptures from the Museum of Naples during the late nineteenth century, for sale as souvenirs to wealthy tourists making the classical 'Grand Tour' of Europe and Italy. H 18" W 16" D 11" Italy c.1890

Internal Ref: ML 1711

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