

SA516927

Fine and decorative group comprising of a C19th alabaster sculpture after Antonio Canova of Paolina Borghese as "Venus Victrix" together with a pair of framed engravings.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA516927****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 31 cm (12.2")

Width = 36 cm (14.2")

Depth = 15 cm (5.9")

Description

Fine and decorative group comprising of a late C19th alabaster sculpture after Antonio Canova of Paolina Borghese as "Venus Victrix", together with a pair of framed engravings. Beautifully carved alabaster reduction of Canova's neo-classical portrait sculpture of Paolina Bonaparte as Venus, completed in 1808. Raised upon a separate fluted rectangular plinth base with moulded edges. The semi-nude figure is shown reclining on a Grecian style couch, reviving the ancient Roman artistic traditions of portrayals of mortal individuals in the guise of the Gods. "Venus Victrix" (or Venus Victorious) depicts the goddess holding a golden apple awarded to her as the most beautiful goddess in the Judgement of Paris. In classical Greek mythology the goddesses were all invited to a party with the exception of Eris, goddess of strife, who took her revenge by throwing an apple with the inscription "To the fairest Goddess" in amongst the guests. Who was the fairest goddess could not be agreed upon and the choice was given to the earthly son of a king, Paris. The choice was between Juno, Minerva and Venus, and it was the latter, Aphrodite or Venus, goddess of beauty and love, w...

Internal Ref: ML 1712

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