

SA766461

Large 19th Century Grand Tour Gilt Bronze of the Dancing Faun c.1890

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA766461****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 80 cm (31.5")

Width = 25 cm (9.8")

Depth = 25 cm (9.8")

Description

At over 80cms tall, this very rare gilt bronze of the dancing faun is a true delight. . Such a joyous figure, the original statue was set on a plinth over a large ornamental pool outside the "House of Faun" one of the finest Roman houses unearthed at Pompei. . Many copies taken from moulds of the original Pompei statues and artifacts were cast by Italian Foundries throughout the 18th and 19th Century - and bought by tourists who embarked on the "Grand Tour" of Europe. . The process for gilding was extremely dangerous, involving a mix of mercury and very high Karat gold ground together and applied to the statue surface and then fired to evaporate the mercury - creating deadly fumes - and a process no longer employed of course. . The resultant figure has a pure gold layer hardened over the bronze and here it is in fine original condition with only minor rubs. . There is a small old repair (gilded and well blended) to a hole in the upper thigh of the raised leg about 3mm x 3mm and a fine scratch in the base about 3 cms long which has been filled and repaired. These probably occurred at the time of making - as was most common - and are small stable infills which have been gil...

Seller Details

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