Finch & Co



FRENCH CARVED MARBLE BUST OF A WOMAN, CIRCLE OF PIERRE PHILIPPE MIGNOT

A FINE FRENCH CARVED MARBLE BUST OF A WOMAN, CIRCLE OF PIERRE PHILIPPE MIGNOT
(1715 – 1770)
ON A LATER TURNED EBONY BASE (CRACKED)
MID 18TH CENTURY
SIZE: 28CM HIGH (INC. BASE) – 11 INS HIGH (INC BASE)

LITERATURE

PIERRE PHILIPPE MIGNOT'S STYLE AND TECHNIQUE OF WORK CLOSELY FOLLOWED THAT OF THE ANCIENT ANTIQUE SCULPTURES OF GREECE AND ROME. THE 'SLEEPING WOMAN' ATTRIBUTED TO HIM IN THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, OXFORD, BEARS GREAT SIMILARITIES TO THE BEAUTY OF THIS SMALL BUST.
THE 'SLEEPING WOMAN' WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED AS A PENDANT TO THE FAMOUS ANTIQUE MARBLE OF THE HERMAPHRODITE. MIGNOT FIRST EXHIBITED IT IN THE FORM OF A LIFE SIZE PLASTER AT THE PARIS SALON IN 1757. THE REALISM OF THE WORK CAUSED A SENSATION WITH CROWDS EXCITEDLY GATHERING AROUND IT, PARTLY AS MIGNOT WAS THEN ALMOST COMPLETELY UNKNOWN. LATER IN 1761 HE EXHIBITED THE REDUCED MARBLE VERSION.