



19TH CENTURY FRENCH PATINATED BRONZE SCULPTURE OF MIRABEAU BY F. TRUPHENE, 1857

\$9,950

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This large antique bronze sculpture was crafted in France; the bronze figure depicts the French politician Mirabeau and is signed, stamped and dated on the base by Francois Joseph A. Truphene, 1857. This very detailed work of art is in excellent condition with a beautiful patinated finish. Honoré Gabriel Riqueti, Count of Mirabeau (1749–1791) was a leader of the early stages of the French Revolution. A noble, he rose to the top of the French political hierarchy in the years 1789-1791 and acquired the reputation of a voice of the people. A successful orator, he was the leader of the moderate position among revolutionaries by favouring a constitutional monarchy built on the model of Great Britain. When he died (of natural causes) he was a great national hero, even though support for his moderate position was slipping away. Historians are deeply split on whether he was a great leader who almost saved the nation from the Terror, a venal demagogue lacking political or moral values, or a traitor in the pay of the enemy. About the French sculptor F. Truphene: born in Aix en Provence, Truphene (1820-1888) exhibited regularly at the Paris Salon from 1850 on. Much in demand for his exceptional work as a portraitist and architectural sculptor, Truphene was awarded commissions throughout France. He produced decoration for Le Louvre, the Palace of Justice and the churches of Ste Clothilde and Trinite in Paris among many others. Listed in the Benezit. Measure: 21" W x 34" H.