

19TH CENTURY FRENCH PATINATED BRONZE BULL SCULPTURE SIGNED GEORGES GARDET

$2,800

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Categories: Bronzes, Brass, Spelter & Silver

Powerful in expression and finely modeled, this antique bronze sculpture depicts a muscular bull standing proudly in an alert and commanding pose. Crafted in France circa 1900, the impressive animalier sculpture is signed "G. Gardet" along the naturalistic base by the renowned French sculptor Georges Gardet (1863–1939), celebrated for his remarkably lifelike representations of animals.

The bull is portrayed with its head raised, long curved horns pointing upward, and a distinctive looped tail extending behind its muscular body. The sculptor's attention to anatomical detail is evident in the powerful shoulders, pronounced musculature, carefully modeled folds of skin, and expressive facial features. Standing firmly on a textured oval base representing rocky terrain, the animal conveys both strength and determination. The bronze retains a rich brown patina with subtle highlights that accentuate the sculptural details and natural contours.

Georges Gardet (1863–1939) was an accomplished French animalier sculptor and the son of sculptor Joseph Gardet. He studied at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris under Aimé Millet and Emmanuel Frémiet, developing a particular talent for capturing the anatomy, movement, and individual character of animals. He exhibited at the Paris Salon beginning in 1883 and achieved considerable recognition with his monumental animal group Drama in the Desert in 1891, now displayed in the Parc Montsouris in Paris.

Gardet received numerous prestigious commissions in France and abroad, including monumental sculptures for public buildings and gardens in Mexico, Canada, and Belgium. His works were cast by distinguished French foundries, including Barbedienne, Thiébaut, and Siot-Decauville. He participated in the Paris Exposition Universelle of 1900 and was named an Officer of the Legion of Honor. The artist is listed in the Bénézit Dictionary of Artists.

The antique bronze is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, retaining its rich patinated finish and finely detailed modeling. A wonderful example of the French animalier tradition, this substantial sculpture would make a striking addition to a library, study, office, or collection of 19th-century bronzes.

Dimensions: 13" W x 5.5" D x 14" H.

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