

19TH CENTURY FRENCH TERRACOTTA SCULPTURE “LE BINIOU” BY GEORGES COUDRAY

$1,925

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Bring a sense of elegance and movement to a study, music room, or refined living space with this exceptional antique French terracotta sculpture titled Le Biniou. Created in France circa 1890 by noted sculptor Georges Charles Coudray, the composition depicts a graceful young Breton woman seated beside a pedestal while gently holding a traditional biniou, the regional bagpipe associated with Brittany’s musical heritage.

Executed with remarkable detail and sensitivity, the sculpture captures the soft drapery of her flowing dress, the delicate lace trim at the sleeves, and the poised, contemplative expression of the sitter. The figure’s relaxed posture and turned gaze lend the work a natural elegance and quiet romanticism characteristic of late 19th century French sculpture. Floral elements climbing the pedestal further enrich the composition with subtle Art Nouveau influence.

The sculpture retains its original brass title plaque reading “Le Biniou,” is signed G. Coudray on the reverse, and is presented on its original circular walnut pedestal base which beautifully complements the warm terracotta surface and rich patinated finish. This antique artwork would make an impressive decorative statement on a console, pedestal, or library table.

Georges Charles Coudray (1862–1932) studied under Jules Thomas and Alexandre Falguière and regularly exhibited at the Salon des Artistes Français between 1883 and 1903. His refined figural works are listed in the Benezit Dictionary of Artists and remain highly regarded for their elegance, technical precision, and poetic interpretation of French life.

The sculpture is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, and adorns a beautiful time-softened terracotta patina.

Dimensions: 12" Diameter x 32"H.

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