



EARLY 20TH CENTURY FRENCH BARBOTINE VENETIAN BOAT FIGURAL CENTERPIECE

\$1,975

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Bring a touch of theatrical Belle Époque charm into an interior with this highly decorative antique French barbotine composition crafted circa 1900. Richly hand-painted in vibrant pastel tones, the whimsical porcelain centerpiece depicts an elegant Venetian-style gondola cresting rolling waves with three finely dressed figures aboard. At the bow, a standing gondolier dressed in 18th-century Louis XV-inspired costume guides the vessel with a long removable oar, while a seated gentleman serenades his companion with a mandolin as she reclines gracefully holding a fan.

The elaborately modeled boat is adorned with scrolling accents, lion mask motifs, floral garlands, and shell ornamentation, all resting on an ornate base supported by whimsical fish-form feet above simulated water. The sculptural detailing throughout showcases the exuberant craftsmanship associated with French barbotine ceramics of the period.

Equally striking as a centerpiece, console decoration, or display object in a library, music room, or collector's cabinet, this antique majolica composition combines movement, romance, and exceptional decorative presence. The piece remains in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, and retains a beautifully vivid hand-painted finish throughout.

Dimensions: 18.5"W x 9"D x 22.5"H.