

MID-CENTURY ENGLISH PAINTED COMPOSITION BEER DRINKER TAVERN SCULPTURE

$1,600

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Full of humor and old-world pub character, this unusual antique figure depicts a jovial beer drinker raising a frothy mug while carrying a large barrel marked “COLD BEER.” Made in England circa 1960, the substantial sculpture is molded from composition and finished with hand-painted decoration in warm, richly aged tones.

The portly gentleman is modeled wearing a dark cap, vest, trousers and boots, with exaggerated facial features, broad arms and a rounded belly that give the figure an expressive, almost caricature-like quality. Tucked beneath one arm is a large beer barrel with painted lettering, while his raised hand holds an oversized stein amusingly decorated with the inscription “I Beer.”

The sculpted clothing folds, textured surfaces and animated stance give the piece strong visual presence from every angle. Reddish-brown flesh tones contrast with the darker clothing and barrel, while rubbing, surface wear and variations in the painted finish contribute to the attractive patina and authentic antique character.

A distinctive example of English tavern decoration and breweriana, this large figural sculpture would make a memorable addition to a bar, pub, wine cellar, game room, restaurant or collection of antique drinking-related memorabilia.

Dimensions: 17” W x 13” D x 21.5” H

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