

Edwardian Silver-Plated Polar Bear on Marble, Circa 1915

£95



REF: 7718

Height: 15 cm (5.9")

Diameter: 1 cm (0.4")

Description

An evocative Edwardian silver-plated figure of a polar bear, standing alert upon a circular polished marble base and dating to circa 1915. Beautifully modelled with a strong, naturalistic silhouette, the bear is captured in a poised, watchful stance, its textured coat and gently lowered head lending the figure a convincing sense of movement and character.

The contrast between the cool, reflective silver plate and the dark, weighty marble base gives the piece an especially handsome sculptural presence. At once decorative and quietly dramatic, it reflects the Edwardian taste for finely made animalier objects, as well as the era's enduring fascination with wildlife, travel, and the far reaches of the natural world.

Made during the great age of polar exploration, the figure may well have drawn inspiration from the public imagination surrounding Arctic and Antarctic expeditions in the early 20th century. Images and accounts of voyages to the poles captured popular attention at this time, and objects such as this brought a sense of that adventurous world into the domestic interior.

Ideal for a desk, library table, mantelpiece, or collector's cabinet, this appealing figure would sit beautifully in a study, country-house interior, or contemporary setting in need of a distinctive antique accent. Displayed alone, it makes an elegant small sculpture; grouped with travel books, natural-history objects, or other period decorative works, it offers a wonderfully collected and personal look.

A charming and unusual example of Edwardian decorative art, combining animalier modelling, period sentiment, and enduring sculptural appeal.