Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Bronzed Spelter Roman Charioteer Figure, Circa 1840

£125

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 7680

Height: 23 mm (0.91")

Width: 19 mm (0.75")

Depth: 35 mm (1.38")

Description

A dramatic 19th-century bronzed spelter figure of a Roman charioteer, dating to circa 1840. Captured in an alert, forward-moving pose, the figure conveys the excitement and spectacle of the ancient circus. His drapery and costume are carefully modelled, while the composition has the confidence and theatrical energy of a small-scale monument.

The warm bronzed surface is set on a substantial slate and marble base, whose dark, architectural character provides a handsome contrast to the figure above. This combination of richly toned materials and classical subject matter is typical of the 19th-century European fascination with the ancient world, when images of Greece and Rome were widely admired in grand interiors, libraries, and country houses.

Rather than representing a particular historical individual, the charioteer appears designed as an ornamental celebration of classical heroism, movement, and command. Its strong silhouette and evocative subject make it a compelling display piece for a mantelpiece, console, desk, or library. It would sit beautifully among neoclassical furniture, antique books, marble objects, and gilt-bronze accessories, while also bringing character and historical depth to a more contemporary interior.

A highly decorative and atmospheric object, combining classical inspiration with the confident craftsmanship of the early Victorian period.

Offered as found, with age-related wear and imperfections consistent with its history, construction, and material.

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