Finch & Co



A FINE PAIR OF WHITE MARBLE BUSTS OF A MAN AND WOMAN DEPICTED AS THE GREEK LOVERS MELEAGER AND ATALANTA

A FINE PAIR OF WHITE MARBLE BUSTS OF A MAN AND WOMAN DEPICTED AS THE GREEK LOVERS MELEAGER AND ATALANTA

CIRCLE OF GABRIEL GRUPELLO

LATE 17TH OR EARLY 18TH CENTURY

SIZE: 88CM HIGH

LITERATURE

EACH ON A TURNED STONE SOCLE, THESE ATTRACTIVE AND VERY DECORATIVE MARBLE SCULPTURES WERE ONCE HOUSES IN A NICHE AS EVIDENCED BY AN IRON RING SET INTO THE REVERSE AND BY THE ROUGH FINISHING ON THE RESERVE OF EACH HEAD.

THEY MAY WELL REPRESENT A PAIR OF PORTRAITS COMMISSIONED ON THE OCCASION OF THE SITTERS' BETROTHAL OR MARRIAGE. AT THIS TIME IT WAS A POPULAR FANCY OR CONCEIT TO HAVE ONE'S PORTRAIT SCULPTED IN THE GUISE OF ANCIENT DIVINES SUCH AS THESE LOVERS MELEAGER AND ATALANTA.

GABRIEL GRUPELLO 1644-1730 WAS A PUPIL OF ARTUS QUELLINUS THE ELDER AND WORKED IN SEVERAL EUROPEAN CENTRES, INCLUDING BRUSSELS AND

DÍ¼SSELDORF. THE FACIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THESE TWO BUSTS COMPARE STYLISTICALLY TO SEVERAL WORKS BY GRUPELLO ESPECIALLY TO THAT OF A FULL-LENGTH FIGURE OF GALATEA BY HIM IN THE PARK OF THE PALACE AT SCHWETZINGEN.
(KULTERMANN, OP.CIT., FIG.63)