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A SUPERBLY CARVED FIGURE OF 'ADONIS' HUNTING

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RAISED UPON A TURNED CIRCULAR BASE

BOXWOOD

SOUTHERN NETHERLANDS

17TH CENTURY / CIRCA 1650

SIZE: ADONIS: 23CM HIGH - 9 INS HIGH / 31.5CM HIGH - 12½ INS HIGH (WITH BASE)

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LITERATURE

ADONIS WAS THE LOVER OF THE GREEK GODDESS APHRODITE. WHILE OUT HUNTING HE WAS 'GORED' BY A WILD BOAR AND DIED IN THE ARMS OF APHRODITE AS SHE WEPT. HIS BLOOD AND HER TEARS COMBINED PRODUCING THE 'ANEMONE' FLOWERS. THE FIGURE OF 'ADONIS' HAS BEEN USED THROUGHOUT HISTORY FROM ANTIQUITY THROUGH TO THE 19TH CENTURY AND IS THE SUBJECT OF SCULPTURE, FRESCOES AND PAINTINGS.

PROVENANCE

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