

## Lot 33



**Auction** Decorative Art

**Date** 16.11.2022, ca. 11:24

**Preview** 11.11.2022 - 10:00:00 bis  
14.11.2022 - 18:00:00

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PAULINE BONAPARTE BORGHESE AS VENUS VICTRIX.

Italy.

Date: 19th century.

Maker/Designer: After Antonio Canova.

Technique: White and orange marble, bronze.

Description: Like the life-size model, the sculpture here - smaller scale - is worked in white marble.

It shows the goddess Venus, with the facial features of Pauline Bonaparte Borghese, stretched out on a recamiere, with only a shawl draped around her hips. She holds an apple in her left hand, which identifies her as Venus Victrix, the victorious goddess in the judgment of Paris.

Measurement: 36x61,5x21cm.

Mark: On the front of the daybed inscribed 'Canova', below monogram 'WG' Or 'WHG'.

The famous original was created by Antonio Canova between 1805 and 1808 and is one of the central pieces of the collection of the Villa Borghese in Rome. Prince Camillo II Borghese had commissioned the sculpture on the occasion of his marriage to Pauline Bonaparte in 1803. After its completion, the sculpture caused quite a commotion due to its revealing depiction and the question of whether Pauline Bonaparte had actually posed nude for Canova. The latter has not been clearly clarified to the present day.

Estimate: 3.000 € - 4.000 €; Hammer: 7.000 €

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