



MONUMENTAL CARVED STONE BUST OF ATHENA OF VELLETRI ON 2-PIECE PLINTH



\$10,200.00

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Country Of Origin Italy

In The Style Of Neoclassical

Age 2000's

Dimensions combined H - 75 1/2, H of bust - 43, W - 34 1/2, D - 24 1/4, D of bust - 18 1/2

Based on the classical marble statue called Athena of Velletri, this monumental hand-carved stone bust is presented on a large two-piece plinth. A rectangular column with cavetto molding along the top sits on top of a large plinth with cyma



Athena has a solemn look, with her gaze directed slightly down and to her left. She is wearing a Corinthian helmet that rests on top of her shoulder length wavy hair that is tied in the back. Athena is wearing her famed aegis, which is an animal skin adorned with an amulet of the Gorgon, Medusa. The aegis was given to Athena by her father, Zeus, and was worn as protective armor. Beneath the aegis is an Ionic chiton, or tunic, which has been depicted with gathered material and pleats. Women of ancient Athens (named after Athena) would often dress in a similar manner with a chiton held in place by a Gorgon clasp.

The original Athena statue was most likely a bronze by the Greek sculptor, Kresilas. Art historians place the creation of the statue at circa 430 BC. A first century marble reproduction (by an unknown Roman sculptor) was found in the ruins near Velletri in 1797, hence the name *Athena of Velletri*. The rediscovered statue was restored by the famed Italian sculptor, Vincenzo Pacetti, who also added a few elements. This restored version has been on display in the Louvre since 1803. Our hand carved rendition of Athena would make a powerful visual impact in any garden or interior setting.

CONDITION: Good condition with intentional rubs and nicks to mimic antiquity. Minor losses and chipping. Stone is a natural material that can become darker or lighter from the elements. The bust has developed a nice warm patina.



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