

Daniel Katz Gallery

ANTIQUITY TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



Frederick William Pomeroy (London 1856 - 1924)

Dionysus

80 cm (31 1/4 inches)

Inscribed Dionysus (in Greek)

Frederick William Pomeroy was born in London and studied at the Lambeth School of Art under Dalou and Frith. In 1880 he was admitted to the R.A. Schools, where he won a gold medal and a travelling scholarship in 1885. He went on to Paris and studied under Antonin Mercie whose David with the Head of Goliath of 1872 greatly influenced his sculpture of Perseus with the Head of Medusa.

Pomeroy first exhibited the present model in plaster at the Royal Academy in 1890. The work was cast in bronze in two sizes, the present large size and a 40cm version. Casts of the larger version can be found in the collections of the Tate Gallery and the National Museum of Wales.

Dionysus, the ancient Greek god of wine, is depicted as a youth, standing on a Renaissance inspired triangular base and toasting the viewer with his upheld rhyton, or drinking horn. Much like the other 'New Sculptors', Pomeroy was greatly inspired by the art of the 15th and 16th centuries and here he combines classical subject matter with the delicate modelling skills that he learned under the mentorship of Dalou.