'Allegory of Music' - A rectangular porcelain plaque by Taxile Maximin Doat (1851 - 1939)

£4,500



REF: 6090

Height: 17.5 cm (6.9")

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Width: 10.5 cm (4.1")

Description

The Allegory of Music depicted as a woman playing a flute among a ribbon of music and standing on a scroll of sheet music.

Faintly monogrammed 'TD' beneath the scroll. France, circa 1885

Taxile Doat worked at the Manufacture Nationale de Sevres from 1877-1905, leading the development of the Art Nouveau style. He perfected the art of pâte-sur-pâte ceramics, producing a book on the subject in 1905, which prompted American ceramist Adelaide Robineau to invite him to Missouri to teach at the University City pottery. Although the institution was short-lived, he had an undeniably significant impact on American art pottery. Doat returned from America in 1914 working at his home studio in Sèvres until the end of his life.

Originating at the Sèvres Manufactory in the 1850s, pâte-sur-pâte ("paste on paste") is a meticulous method in which an image is built up through numerous delicate layers of liquid clay. It was time-consuming and extremely difficult and as a result was the most expensive form of porcelain to produce. Doat also became known for his striking crystalline and flowing drip glazes, as well as his asymmetrical, organically inspired gourd-shaped vessels. A major presence in the field of ceramics, he left a lasting mark not only through his work but also as an educator and writer.

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