

Stuart Lochhead Sculpture





Albert Marque

Nanterre 1872 - 1947

Sleep

Marble relief
59.5 x 44.5

Signed A. Marque at the lower left

Provenance

- Ludovic Baschet, Paris

Exhibited

- Paris, 1899, Salon de la Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, Sculpture, n. 96, in the collection of Ludovic Baschet

Biographical references

- L. Vaillat, "L'art décoratif: Albert Marque" in *L'Art et les artistes*, XV, April-September 1912, pp. 274-8

The French sculptor lived and worked in Paris all his life, exhibiting at many of the capital's Salons. He participated in the Salon de la Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts from 1899 to 1904, in the Salon des Indépendants from 1902 and later in the Salon d'Automne and elsewhere. His style was inspired by that of Jean-Baptiste Carpeaux, Jules Dalou and Jean-Baptiste Pigalle but the sculptor was also influenced by classical and Renaissance models [Fig.1]. He worked in bronze or terracotta producing small-scale female heads and figures. At the Salon des Indépendants in 1902 he exhibited the sculpture of a girl's head, which attracted the attention of Maurice Denis. In addition to such works, he created decorative sculpture for furniture, architecture and domestic objects, as in the *Naiad* (see Vaillat, p. 275) designed for a pedestal bowl. He also created numerous low reliefs such as *Maternity* (see Vaillat, p. 276).

In the salon d'Automne of 1905, the Florentine-style sculptures by Marque that were displayed along with paintings by Matisse, Derain and Vlaminck were famously described by the art critic Louis Vauxcelles : "In the centre of the gallery are a child's torso and a small marble bust both from Albert Marque, who sculpts with delicate wisdom. Amid the orgy of pure colour, the candour of the busts is surprising: Donatello among the wild beasts ['fauves']." Hence was born the term 'fauve'.

Ludovic Baschet, who once owned the relief, was a photographer.



Fig. 1 A. Marque, *Giotto*, bronze, Musée Bonnat-Helleu, Bayonne