

**CARLO ORSI**  
**TRINITY FINE ART**

*Milan – London*

**CARLO ORSI - TRINITY FINE ART RETURNS TO TEFAF NEW YORK WITH A RARE  
SIGNED PLASTER CAST BY ANTONIO CANOVA**

Carlo Orsi - Trinity Fine Art is delighted to return to TEFAF New York for its second year at the historic Park Avenue Armory from 28 October to 1 November 2017. His stand 83 will be unmissable thanks to the stunning giant *Rezzonico Genius*, a rare, signed plaster cast by the celebrated sculptor **Antonio Canova** (1757-1822).



**Antonio Canova**, *Rezzonico Genius*, plaster, height c. 165 cm. (65 ins.), signed: ANT. CANOVA

Standing at 165 cms high (65 ins.), cast from the marble reclining Genius from Canova's masterful funerary monument to Pope Clement XIII Rezzonico in St. Peter's in Rome, this plaster bust was sent by Canova himself in the summer of 1794 to Girolamo Zulian (1730-95), the Venetian ambassador to Rome who so championed Canova whilst the artist was in Rome, indeed commissioning from him the famous *Theseus and the Minotaur*, now in the Victoria & Albert Museum in London.

On returning to his native Padua, Zulian set aside a room in his house called "Canova's Chamber" where this *Genius* and other casts of the artists' statues were placed and in the lay-out of which Canova was directly involved. Zulian introduced Canova to Daniele degli Oddi who, after Zulian's death, became one of the greatest collectors of Canova casts. Thus this dramatic cast, of which we know of no other surviving version (with the exception of the one without arm in the Gipsoteca at Possagno), has passed down through such eminent collectors to be offered at TEFAF New York, priced in the region of US\$4,000,000.

Also on Stand 83 will be two rare panels by **Ambrogio da Fossano, called Bergognone** (1472-1523) of *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*, which once formed part of a monumental polyptych gracing an altar in the church of Santi Stefano e Domenico in Bergamo, a Dominican convent, which was demolished in 1561. The polyptych, dedicated to the Madonna of the Roses, was dismantled piecemeal and dispersed in the course of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Panels are now to be found in public collections – the Borromeo Collection in Milan, the Academia Carrara in Bergamo, the Philadelphia Museum of Art. They carry a price in the region of Euros 600,000.



**Ambrogio da Fossano, called Bergognone, *St. Peter, St. Paul***, mixed technique on panel, 118 x 45.5 cm each (46½ x 18 ins.)

19<sup>th</sup> century sculpture is represented by a marble *Portrait bust of the Duchess of Berry* by **Félicie de Fauveau**, signed and dated 1840 which was commissioned by the Duchess for her castle at Brunsee in Austria.



**Félicie de Fauveau, *Portrait Bust of the Duchess of Berry***, marble, height 60 cm. (23<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> ins.), signed and dated: F. de Fauveau/ 1840

A ravishing lunette by **Pelagio Palagi** (1775-18 60), assisted by **Francesco Hayez** (1791-1882) bearing the title of *Virtue Caressing Merit and Hounding Out Ignorance in the Presence of Scholarship* is a crucial addition to the catalogue of Palagi's work and is clearly associated with the fresco of the same subject he painted in Palazzo Torlonia in Rome between 1813 and 1814 as part of the celebrated cycle illustrating the *Story of Theseus* (destroyed when the Palazzo was demolished to extend Palazzo Venezia (in 1901-2). The young Hayez, in Rome on a bursary from the Accademia in Venice, painted the figure of the old man seated on the right.



**Pelagio Palagi, Francesco Hayez, *Virtue Caressing Merit and Hounding Out Ignorance in the Presence of Scholarship*, oil on canvas, lunette, 85 x 168 cm. (33½ x 66⅛ ins.)**

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