



DEMETRE CHIPARUS (1886-1947)

Civa (Shiva)

Signed base, "Chiparus" and "Made in France"

cold-painted, patinated and enameled bronze and chryselephantine

21 1/2 x 15 x 9 7/8 in.

1925

2911

PROVENANCE:

Heather James Fine Art, Palm Desert and Desert Projects, Palm Springs

Heather James Fine Art

Civa is one of the principal deities of Hinduism. In this work, Chiparus represents the exoticism of the East, as the elegant figure meditates in the lotus position. The work recalls the dances of the Ballets Russes, one of the artist's primary inspirations, and embodies the essence of the age — particularly the rediscovery of ancient Egyptian art, as Tutankhamun's tomb was excavated in 1922.

Chiparus depicted most of his figures in a sensual, curvilinear fashion. His subjects always look beautiful and at ease. Civa is an excellent example of the artist's impeccable casting, particularly the detail work in the bronze body and the expressively carved ivory face.

The decorative base is also noteworthy, because Chiparus made them integral to his compositions. The artist used an assortment of materials to decorate the bases of his sculptures, including onyxes, marbles, and colored stones.

The Romanian artist Demetre Chiparus, who studied and worked in Paris, produced most of his important Art Deco-style bronze and ivory sculptures in the 1920s.

Before fully defining his style, Chiparus studied under in Italy under sculptor Raffaello Romanelli before moving to Paris to attend École des Beaux-Arts to study under the French sculptors Anton Mercié and Jean Boucher. He continued making sculpture into the 1940s.

Interest in Chiparus's Art Deco-era sculpture reignited in the last 20 years, and collectors have since placed a high value on the rare works and drawn more attention to the elegant and beautiful figures.

The information and material herein represents Gallery's best efforts and understanding of the current history and scholarship with respect to the provenance of the Work(s) of Art described and is not part of any warranty.









CHRISTIE'S

DEMETRE CHIPARUS (1886-1947)

'CIVA', AN IMPORTANT ART DECO SCULPTURE, CIRCA 1925

Lot 40 / Sale 11560

Price Realized

£134,500
(\$207,265)

Sales totals are hammer price plus buyer's premium and do not reflect costs, financing fees or application of buyer's or seller's credits.

Estimate

£80,000 - £120,000
(\$123,360 - \$185,040)

Sale Information

Sale 11560
Historical Design
3 November 2015
London, King Street

Lot Description

DEMETRE CHIPARUS (1886-1947)

'CIVA', AN IMPORTANT ART DECO SCULPTURE, CIRCA 1925

cold-painted and patinated bronze, ivory, on an onyx and coloured glass illuminating base
21 ¼ in. (54 cm.) high; 14 ¾ in. (37.5 cm.) wide; 10 ¼ in. (26 cm.) deep
base signed *Chiparus* and engraved 13









