

ADRIAN ALAN

Fine Art & Antiques



Theodore Ullmann

An Unusual Patinated Bronze and Verte De Mer Marble Figural Aquarium

Circa: Austrian, Circa 1920

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121 x 82 x 52 cm (47 ⁵/₁₆ x 32 ¹/₁₆ x 20 ¹/₁₆ inches)

bronze and marble

Signed 'TH. ULLMANN', and stamped 'MADE IN AUSTRIA'.

An Unusual Patinated Bronze and Verte De Mer Marble, Figural Aquarium by Theodore Ullmann.

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This unusual figural aquarium is of octagonal shape with glass side panels, cast to one end with a swan about to take flight and to the with a pair of bathing beauties on a rocky outcrop. Modelled with great charm and dynamism, one bather sits watching attentively as her companion tentatively dips her toe in the water, her hair billowing and her arms outstretched for balance.

The aquarium is set on a Verte de Mere marble base and raised on a conforming cast iron stand with a lattice frieze inset with a marble table with a pair of crossed oars and raised on tapering legs united by a cross stretcher.

The design is characteristic of the playful and inventive approach of Ullmann's work in the early 1920s, marking a transition between the naturalism of art nouveau and the stylised aesthetics of art deco. The aquarium was almost certainly cast by the Arthur Rubenstein Foundry in Vienna.

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