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A most charming Italian 19th century white Carrara marble bust of a young boy signed, G. Branca J Milano 1881. The handsome young boy is raised on a mottled white Carrara marble socle pedestal below an adorable engraved silvered bronze plaque that reads, in French cursive: "Moi, Grand = Papa" (Me, Grown Up = Daddy). The young boy, in classic attire, has a finely carved face, with a cheeky smile and gaze. He is wearing an embroidered beret with a long tassel atop his curly hair. Richly executed throughout.

Giulio Branca (1851-1920) sculptor born in Cannobio, Italy. At age fourteen he went to Milan where he studied sculpture for 4 years at l'Academie. Winning first prize, Branca is one of the most eminent sculptors of the Lombard School. His Louis XVII life size marble statue was sold in Paris in 1878. He received the Mention Honorable at the Salon de Paris in 1889.



