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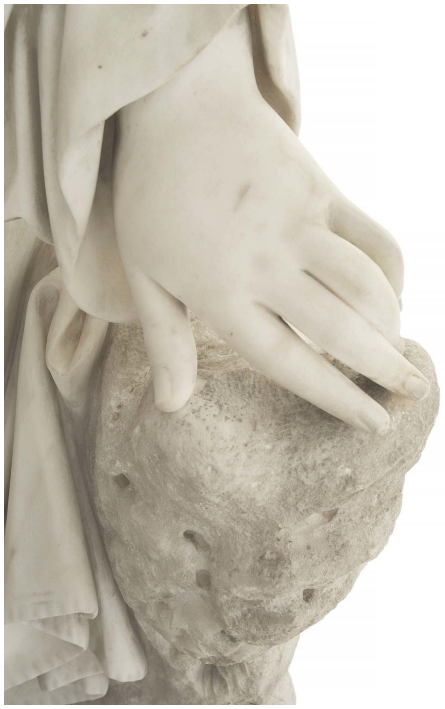
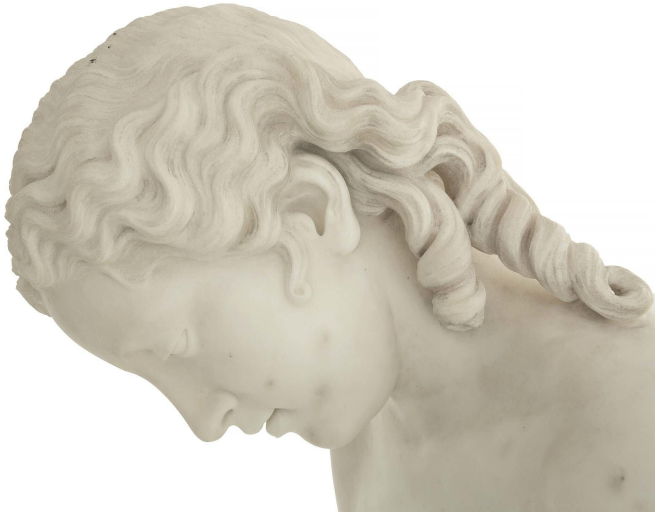
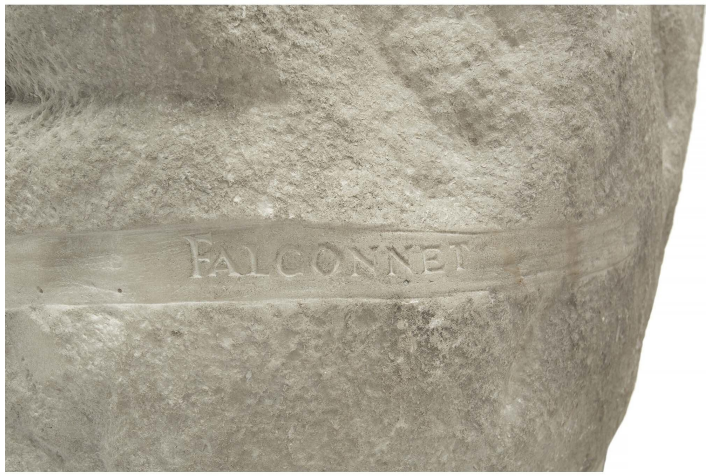
A sensational and extremely high quality Italian 18th century white Carrara marble statue of a young girl stepping into water, signed FALCONET. The exquisitely sculpted statue is raised by an oval base with a water design and a beautiful waterfall cascading from a rock on which the beautiful young girl leans. The rock displays richly sculpted texture and an striking flower at the base. The girl is standing on her right foot preparing to step into the water. She holds up her garment, to avoid getting it wet, while she steadies herself against the rock with her right hand. She displays a beautiful gaze and finely sculpted flowing curly hair. Fabulous proportions and attention to detail throughout.

Étienne-Maurice Falconet (1716-1791) is among the highest rank of French Rococo sculptors, whose patron was Mme de Pompadour. Falconet attended l'Académie des Beaux-Arts in 1754. He was appointed as the director of sculpture at the Manufacture Royale de Porcelaine at Sèvres, until he was invited to Russia by Catherine the Great in 1766. In 1788 he returned to Paris and became director of the Académie des Beaux-Arts. Many of Falconet's religious works, commissioned for churches, were destroyed at the time of the French Revolution.

Item #9439 H: 54 in L: 22 in D: 22 in List Price: $155,000.00



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