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A sensational museum quality Italian 19th century white Carrara marble statue, signed Giovanni Maria Benzoni. The stunning statue depicts Cupid sitting on a rock covered with oak leaves. At his side are a floral wreath and a crown of thorns, which symbolize life and death. The wonderfully executed Cupid holds his arrow in his left hand with his quiver by his side. He covers himself with a most masterfully sculpted sheep skin, with striking intricate details, that partially covers his wings. The statue is raised on its pedestal with an octagonal base below a mottled band with a lovely foliate wrap around design. Above the circular tapered central support are elegant finely sculpted rosettes and flowers with a Les Oves design and the elongated octagonal top display tier. Wonderful proportions and fine attention to detail throughout.

Giovanni Marria Benzoni (1809, Songavazzo-1873, Rome). A 19th century Italian master sculptor. Benzoni attended the Saint Luc Academy in Rome and was a student of Giuseppe Fabri. His works were renowned as the highest quality and he produced pieces for Popes Gregorio XIV and Pio IX, the emperor of Russia, the Sultan of Turkey and the Royals of Italy and Holland.





