

CHARLES AUFFRET (1929-2001)

Gymnastics

Bronze proof, #2/12
Lost wax cast by Attilio Valsuani
Signed: CH. AUFFRET
H. 21; W. 15; D. 15 cm

Provenance

- From the artist studio

Bibliography

- *Charles Auffret (1929-2001), Sculptures - dessins*, Voiron, musée Mainssieux, 2002.
- *Charles Auffret*, Rome, villa Médicis, 9 mai - 5 juillet 2007, Somogy, 2007.

The model for *Gymnastics*, a former trapeze artist, was forced to discontinue this activity after a fall. She worked with different sculptors. In 1969, she posed in a manner that was particularly difficult for sculptors René Babin (1919-1997) and Gudmar Olovson (born in 1936). The first created a figure entitled *The Star*, and the second, *Concorde*. This model was appreciated for her great flexibility and for her ability to hold complicated positions.

Thanks to the choice of simple plans, to a modeling of intense sensitivity, concentrated on the essential, the sculpture of *Gymnastics* combines ruggedness and tenderness, or even force and restraint. Charles Auffret was fond of this work, which was one of his first sculptures to be reproduced in bronze.