

‘ORIENTAL DANCER’

By Demetre Chiparus
Circa 1920

A gilt bronze and ivory dancer wearing loose fitting pantaloons, with a short skirt, a broad studded belt, and a sleeveless bejewelled bodice and cloche cap. The brown onyx base has three bronze plaques, each with a dancer in a different pose.

Height : 40 cms

Signatures : Engraved ‘Chiparus’ on the marble base

References : Alberto Shayo, Chiparus Master of Art Deco, Second Edition, Abbeville Press Publishers, 1999, pg 93.



Oriental Dancer was made in two sizes, 40 cm (as here) and 31 cm. There were also all-bronze versions made as well. It has been seen with different bases, without the bronze plaque insets, and also mounted as a lamp base.

Chiparus figures with bronze plaques inset into their bases are very desirable, as this is an added component/complexity to the piece.

This model does not appear on the international market very often, so is obviously quite rare. The condition is pretty good, the patina intact, and a few age cracks in the ivory.

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