

PASH ANTIQUES

A. PASH & SONS OF MAYFAIR

The Buffalo Hunt R. Monti for Hancock

Hancock

REF: 12100

Height: 66.01 cm (26") Width: 58.4 cm (23") Depth: 39.35 cm (15.5")



"The Buffalo Hunt" sculpture in silver and bronze, on Ebonised wooden plinth.

26 inches high

23 inches long

15.5 inches front to back.

Signed on the Bronze "R MONTI 1873". For the Sculptor Raffael Monti (1818-1881)

The silver hallmarked on the Buffalo and on the horse For C. F. Hancock, London 1872.

Hancock exhibited at the Vienna Exhibition of 1873 where they displayed several works by the illustrious artist Rafael Monti. This piece is not mentioned specifically in the brief description of

their stand it is likely that it was there; Hancocks's stand was considered the most impressive of the English Exhibitors and they won several prizes for their display. Pieces of this calibre were only ever produced as special commissions for presentation or for the purpose of exhibition.

Within the collection of the Gilcrease Museum collection is an all-bronze version of this sculpture presented as a race prize in America in 1874. In the museum listing under "marks and inscriptions" they state that it is "Signed, R. Monti, 1873 (after Catlin)". The attribution to "Catlin" refers to the American artist George Catlin, who specialised in paintings of the Native American culture and who died in 1872. He was resident in London in the years preceding his death, where his works were exhibited also. The subject of this sculpture is particularly unusual to see produced by artists during this period; it is easy to see the influence of Catlin in this piece; it is possible that Catlin and Monti were acquainted but, at the very least, we can tell from the accuracy of the astonishing detailing that Monti was almost certainly a student of Catlin's paintings and illustrations.