

## ATTRIBUTED TO GABRIEL DE GRUPELLO (1644, GRAMMONT IN BELGIUM - 1730, NETHERLANDS)

## WHITE MARBLE BAS-RELIEF REPRESENTING A MYTHOLOGICAL SCENE WITH NEPTUNE. PUTTI AND THE ABDUCTION OF EUROPA



NORTH EUROPEAN WORK

18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

DIMENSIONS: HEIGHT: 33 3/8 IN; WIDTH: 16 3/4 IN



By the expressiveness and the power from this sculpture, we can attribute our bas-relief to the Belgian artist, Gabriel de Grupello (1644-1730). A famous work is kept in Royal Museums of Belgium in Brussels and depicts the same subject with Neptune and another muse, Thétis. Indeed, we can see a strong similarity in the very sensitive work granted to the marble and a same iconography in two works.

The God Neptune is the central figure. He is depicted in foreground riding a dolphin, holding a triton in a hand and hailing the goddess Europe getting out from waters with another hand.

A mythological figure holding a musical instrument is depicted on the right side from the basrelief.

The bas-relief presented here is a work of a high quality executed by a famous artist who was very successful in his lifetime. He worked to the Palatino Elector Jean Guillaume and became First Sculptor of the Emperor of Austria. His works are sought by collectors and are kept in most important European museums.

## Bibliography:

Udo Kultermann, Gabriel Grupello, Berlin, Deutscher Verlag Fur Kunstwissenschaft, 1968, p.47, illustration 19.