



VASSÉ, Louis-Claude

Paris 1716 - Paris 1772

Etude pour Un berger endormi

Study for Sleeping Shepherd

c. 1745

terracotta

statuette

12 ⁵/₈ x 7 ⁷/₈ x 6 ¹¹/₁₆ in.

Acc. No.: 2000.210

Credit Line: Purchase with funds from Irene and

Howard Stein

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Provenance

- Paris, Galerie Patrice Bellanger
- 2000, Purchase with funds from Irene and Howard Stein

Bibliography

- Museum's website, June 10, 2013

Exhibitions

- 2011 Atlanta

Comment

Museum's website, June 10, 2013:

This terracotta is believed to be a sketch for the Louvre's marble entitled, "A Sleeping Shepherd." Although the positions of the arms have changed and a staff has been added to the marble, there is a strong resemblance between the seated pose and the backward-tilted head of the sleeping male subject. This type of terracotta sketch was created directly from a nude male or female model—a staple of French academic training at the time. This directness results in a freshness and immediacy that is lost during the later translation into marble. In addition, Vassé's study of antique sculpture in Rome is evident in the modeling of the figure's torso, which recalls the famous Roman marble sculptural fragment known as the Belvedere Torso.
