Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Large 18th-Century Spanish Carved Polychrome Corpus Christi, Circa 1750

£1,950

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REF: 6787

Height: 77 cm (30.3")

Width: 68 cm (26.8")

Depth: 22 cm (8.7")

Description

A large and finely carved Spanish polychrome Corpus Christi, dating to circa 1750. The figure is rendered with remarkable sensitivity and devotional intensity, its carefully modelled anatomy, expressive face, and deeply carved drapery conveying both suffering and serenity.

Created during the height of Spain's enduring Catholic artistic tradition, this powerful sculpture was likely intended for a church, chapel, convent, or private devotional setting. Religious images of this scale and quality were central to 18th-century Spanish worship, serving as vivid aids to contemplation and expressions of faith. The naturalistic treatment of the body, the dramatic fall of the perizonium, and the emotive character of the head all reflect the Baroque tradition that continued to shape Spanish sacred art well into the mid-18th century.

The surviving polychrome decoration gives the work exceptional presence, enriching the sculpted form with colour, depth, and a powerful sense of realism. Time-softened surfaces and areas of wear contribute to its visual depth, enhancing the figure's devotional character and historic appeal.

Impressive in scale and finely observed in execution, this Corpus Christi would make a commanding focal point in an interior, chapel-like setting, library, or collection of religious art. A compelling and evocative example of 18th-century Spanish devotional sculpture, combining considerable decorative impact with profound spiritual and historical resonance.

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