



Beauty & POWER

Renaissance and Baroque Bronzes
from the Peter Marino Collection

FOR THE PAST FIVE HUNDRED YEARS, since the development of the small bronze statuette as an artistic genre in the Renaissance, collecting bronze sculptures has been considered a rarefied and prestigious pursuit.

The collection of bronze sculptures formed over the last three decades by New York architect Peter Marino ranks as one of the outstanding private collections of Renaissance and Baroque bronzes of the present day. Rich in Italian and French masterpieces from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, the Peter Marino collection provides an excellent overview of the development of the bronze statuette during a period when bronze was among the foremost media of sculptural expression and at a time when virtuosity in working this versatile metal alloy flourished.

The nobility of the human body—its beauty and its power—fascinated Renaissance and Baroque artists. Using tales from ancient Greek and Roman mythology as their subject matter, as well as themes from biblical stories, they sought to glorify

the human body and enshrine cultural morals and ideals. They viewed bronze, with its capacity to present individual limbs more freely than is possible with marble, as the perfect medium for expressing their artistic vision.

The Peter Marino collection is being shown at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts together with a selection of related works from the museum's own collection and with a spectacular, recently discovered original-size bronze cast of the *Borghese Gladiator* that is on loan from another private collector and is being presented to the American public for the first time.

For an introduction to the technique of lost wax bronze casting, please be sure to visit the exhibition *Lost Wax, Found Sculpture* in the Cargill Gallery, downstairs, next to the museum entrance (on view from February 6 to April 17, 2011).

ORGANIZED BY THE WALLACE COLLECTION, LONDON

