



**A LARGE VENETIAN SCULPTURE OF THE  
BACCHANAL BY MICHELANGELO GUGGENHEIM**

**Dimensions: H: 82 in / 208 cm | W: 19.5 in / 50 cm**

**10245**



A Large Venetian Sculpture of the Bacchanal  
By Michelangelo Guggenheim

Carved from a stained and patinated pine typical of the best Venetian sculptor's workshops, this sculptural group of Cherubs depicts the children's bacchanal, all three nude figures holding drinking cups and perched atop a flowing wine barrel in a pyramidal configuration. On its original hexagonal carved pedestal bearing ribbon-tied flowers and coat of arms. The underside stamped 'Fabbrica Mobili Artistici / M. Guggenheim / Venezia.'

**Literature:**

Children's bacchanal

The bacchanal is a mythological lively celebration inspired by the ancient god of wine – Bacchus. Although this Pagan festival ended with the Roman Empire, depictions of the bacchanalia could be

seen on ancient buildings, and Renaissance artists continued depicting the bacchanalia in art, often with Christian undertones. The children's bacchanal is much rarer in art and is perhaps most famously known from Michelangelo's 1533 drawing for a young Roman nobleman. It is considered one of Michelangelo's finest drawings and is now in the English Royal Collection.