

Lot 5

## Mermoz Bronze Rosette Chatriot-Lecluse

**Bronze, 12”**



Copy after Rosette Chatriot.  
The original was created in 1938, two years only after Mermoz's death.  
Rosette Chatriot, a student of Muller, had the chance to meet Mermoz.

Edition limited to 25 copies, is realized by Art du Gour de Tazenat's foundry

### **Testimonial from France Chatriot, Sculptor:**

*“When my mother was a young girl, she idolized Jean Mermoz, an adventurous French pilot who pioneered a commercial route stretching down the West African coast and along to South America. She kept a scrapbook, including his photographs, newspaper clippings documenting his accomplishments, and her own drawings of him.*

*My mother studied sculpture and painting at Ecole Duppre from 1936 to 1938, and while there, at the age of 19, she decided to make a plaster sculpture of Jean Mermoz.*

*When she was twenty, she married my father, a pilot who flew a Morane-Saulnier 230. She met Jean Mermoz through my father. The three of them were idealists. Unfortunately, their friendship was tragically cut short on December 7, 1936 when the engine of Jean Mermoz's plane, the Croix de Sud, failed and he and his entire crew were lost at sea.*

*On January 1, 2002, I saw the Air France special edition magazine in honor of Mermoz's centennial. I decided to make a series of 25 bronze sculptures commemorating Jean Mermoz for the Air France Museum. Over the past 10 years, twelve sculptures have been sold. Half the proceeds have gone to the Air France Museum and the other half to various charities, such as Perce-Neiges, Ailes Brisees and Aviation Sans Frontiers. I intend to take the remaining sculptures and place them in museums along Jean Mermoz's original route”*

**Value: \$4,000**