

## Emile Antoine Bourdelle

**MEDIUM** Sculpture

**NATIONALITY** French

**LIFE DATES** Montauban, France 1861 - 1929 Paris, France

Emile Antoine Bourdelle belongs to the generation of French sculptors that followed Rodin. He was born in Montauban, France, and at the age of thirteen began to work for his father, a cabinetmaker, carving sculptural decorations. He studied art in Toulouse, France, before being accepted to the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris. For the next few years, he studied under the sculptors Alexandre Falguière, Jules Dalou, and Jean-Baptiste Carpeaux. In 1893, Rodin employed Bourdelle as one of his praticiens, the carvers who executed his work in stone. Their relationship developed into a close friendship that left a strong personal and artistic imprint on the younger sculptor.

Bourdelle executed a number of distinguished commissions including a war memorial at Montauban, France, reliefs for the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris, and a monument to General Alvear, Buenos Aires, Argentina. His studio became the Académie de la Grande-Chaumière. Bourdelle died in Paris in 1929. Twenty years later, the Musée Bourdelle opened in Paris.

