

Tyrant
James Howden

£8,000



REF: 3896

Height: 60 cm (23.6")

Width: 40 cm (15.7")

Depth: 30 cm (11.8")

Description

Original

Bronze

This work is a fictional artifact-an echo from a past that never was, or perhaps a future that might be. It is deliberately styled to resemble an unearthed relic, a bronze monolith from a civilisation long gone. Its form is both familiar and unsettling: the head of Michelangelo's David rests atop a massive, mechanised body, a fusion of classical iconography and dystopian machinery.

"Tyrant" questions how we are fed history-curated, sanitised, and mythologized. David is widely celebrated in art and religious history as the boy who defeated Goliath, a righteous underdog who became a king. But who told that story? Who declared him a hero? What if he was the aggressor? What if David wasn't a liberator, but a conqueror whose tale was rewritten by the victors?

In our world, history is not truth-it is narrative. It is edited, rewritten, and sculpted like marble into whatever shape those in power decide it should be. This piece challenges viewers to confront that uncertainty. It suggests that the line between hero and tyrant is not as clear as we are taught, and that many of the figures we revere might be remembered very differently if the story had been told by someone else.

With "Tyrant," I invite you to reconsider not just David, but every statue, every legend, every "truth" handed down through time.

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