

Linus

EDWARD ONSLOW-FORD (English, 1852-1901)

The present sculpture (alternatively titled Linos) is based on the son of Apollo, and the God of Melody and Rhythm. There is a unique full-size version in the Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight, Liverpool. This large-scale cast (191 cm) was originally shown at the Royal academy in 1884.



Linus, 1884, bronze

Although the sculptor had made his debut in 1875, it was this work which signalled the beginning of his career as one of the foremost artists of the New Sculpture movement. Indeed 1884 represented an important year for sculpture in Britain, in particular for full-sized, bronze statues of youthful male nudes - represented at the Royal Academy that year by Ford's *Linus*, Alfred Gilbert's *Icarus*, Hamo Thornycroft's *Mower*, and Auguste Rodin's *The Age of Bronze*.

BOWMAN SCULPTURE

As with many other large-scale models by Gilbert, Thornycroft and Onslow Ford, as well as the commissioned life size works, the sculptor created an edition of domestic scale works for the collectors market. Onslow Ford made a 38 cm version and the current model 77.5 cm version, which is particularly rare.