



## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

# A SCOTTISH TRIBUTE IN BRONZE

ALEXANDER CARRICK'S 'THE GUNNER' COMES TO AUCTION THIS REMEMBRANCE WEEK

One of only three known examples known to exist



*The Gunner* by Alexander Carrick (1882–1966)  
Estimate £1,500–£2,500 (lot 101)

LONDON, UK. NOVEMBER 8, 2025. As we remember those who served our country this Remembrance week, a work of art by Alexander Carrick (1882–1966), one of Scotland's most respected sculptors, stands as a poignant reminder. The rare bronze titled *The Gunner* was cast amidst the tumult of the First World War in Edinburgh in circa 1917. The richly patinated bronze embodies both the strength of the Scottish soldier and the enduring spirit of the nation that shaped its maker.

Carrick, who was the son of a Musselburgh blacksmith, trained at the Edinburgh College of Art and before being conscripted in 1916, he was apprenticed to the renowned sculptor William Birnie Rhind

RSA (1853–1933), one of Scotland’s important monumental and architectural sculptors of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and a key figure in shaping the public sculpture of Edinburgh and beyond. Serving as Gunner A. Carrick 95309 in the 30th (Siege) Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery, he operated eight-inch howitzers on the Western Front, the very weapon immortalised in this sculpture.

Remarkably, *The Gunner* was modelled in Belgian clay while Carrick was on active service, a work of both artistry and remembrance forged in the shadow of war. It was first exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy in 1918, while Carrick was still serving in Belgium and later shown in Glasgow, Aberdeen and London’s Royal Academy (in 1922). Only two other examples are known, one is retained by the artist’s descendants, another was sold at Sotheby’s auctioneers in 1994.

Commenting on the piece Olympia Auctions specialist Matthew Barton, said: “I feel honoured to present this powerful bronze of *The Gunner* by the Scottish sculptor Alexander Carrick (1882-1966). It is the season of remembrance and this figure is an emotive testament to the artist’s personal experience of the First World War. The maquette was first modelled by Carrick in Belgian clay, when he was an artilleryman himself and serving at the front, in support of the Ypres Salient. The figure was then sent home for casting in bronze, to be exhibited at the Royal Scottish Academy in 1918, all whilst Carrick was still fighting in the war in Belgium.”

This evocative piece comes from the collection of Sir George Bull, 3rd Baronet (1906–1986), by descent to the present owners and will be offered in **Olympia Auctions European Works of Art, Objects & Silver sale on November 19, 2025** with an estimate of £1,500-£2,500 (lot 101).

~ENDS~

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