

RALPH GIERHARDS

ANTIQUES / FINE ART



The giraffe

Circa: Cast around 1980–1985

Animal, animals, giraffe,

53 cm
1' 8⁷/₈"

Cast around 1980–1985

Bronze with patina

53 cm (20 ⁷/₈ inches)

Signed: 'José Maria David' and numbered '2/8'

José Maria David

(Loire Atlantique 1944 - 2015)

'The Giraffe'

Brown patinated bronze

Signed: 'José Maria David' and numbered '2/8'

Cast around 1980 - 1985

José-Maria David is a French sculptor who was born in Loire Atlantique in 1944.

He spent his childhood near the Gâvre forest, and this proximity to nature was one of the driving forces behind his artistic choices. He comes from a family of artists, where he quickly developed his artistic sensibility. As an adult, he first worked as an antique dealer and then for Aristotle Onassis between 1984 and 1986. During this time, he travelled around the world four times. In 1986, he decided to devote himself entirely to sculpture. David creates his sculptures with the sole theme of animals, whether wild or domestic. He is now considered the undisputed master of the new animal school.