



**FERDINAND PREISS**  
*Bearer of the Flame, 1920s*

**Martin and Stein Antiques**

Shop 26, Grand Walk,  
Queen Victoria Building  
455 George Street, Sydney, NSW 2000

T: 02 9267 6628

F: 02 9267 4757

E: [info@martinandstein.com.au](mailto:info@martinandstein.com.au)

W: [www.martinandstein.com](http://www.martinandstein.com)

James Stein, Annemie Stein

Ferdinand Preiss (1882-1943) was a leading sculptor of the Art Deco period in Germany. Trained as an ivory carver, he moved to Berlin and in 1906 with Arthur Kessler started a firm, Preiss and Kessler, which specialised in small ivory and bronze figurative sculpture. Following the upheaval of World War I, Preiss extended the range to include dancers and sporting figures, inspired by the Olympic ideal. Several models bearing flaming torches were part of this suite.

Preiss used as models well-known performers of the day, such as Ada May, a member of C. B. Cochran's dancing troupe; and athletic dancer, Georgia Graves.