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A sensational and extremely high quality Italian 19th century Louis XVI st. white Carrara marble statue of a girl and her dog, signed G.M. BENZONI. F.A. 1861. ROMA. The sculpture is titled "La Riconoscenza" which translates to "Gratitude". The masterfully sculpted statue is of a young girl removing a thorn from her dog's paw. The statue is raised by an oval base with a terrain design where the beautiful young girl is sitting on a rock which is covered by a wonderfully executed flowing drape. The charming and richly detailed dog is lying on her back with one paw delicately held in the caring girl's hand. The young girl has her hair tied up and has just removed the thorn from her dog's paw, who is gratefully rewarding her by kissing her hand. Superb and exquisite attention to every charming detail throughout.

Giovanni Maria Benzoni's work is currently on display in the Metropolitan Museum of Art where the sister statue to this piece, "L'Innocenza difesa Dalla Fedelta" (which translates to "Innocence Protected By Fidelity"), can be enjoyed.





