



## Alexis Grimou (1678-1738) - Young Man Portrait



13 000 EUR

Signature : Alexis Grimou

Period : 18th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 75 cm hors cadre

Width : 63 cm hors cadre

<https://www.proantic.com/en/423765-alexis-grimou-1678-1738-young-man-portrait.html>

### Description

Alexis GRIMOU (Argenteuil 1678 - Paris 1738)  
Young man with strawberry Oil on canvas, H. 75 cm; L. 63 cm Alexis Grimou, portraitist at the court of Louis XV. He is the son of a hundred-Swiss guard of the king. He learned all by himself the painting and the profession of his father made him frequent the barracks and the cabaret. In 1704, he married a niece of Francesco Procopio dei Coltelli, founder of Café Procope, which was a meeting place for artists and intellectuals in Paris. The following year, Grimou is accredited by the Royal Academy of Painting and Sculpture. Although charged by the Academy to paint as his pieces of reception portraits of the sculptor Jean Raon (1630-1707) and his colleague Antoine Coyne (1661-1722), he failed to present one or the other image and in 1709 the approval

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was canceled. As a result, he joined the Academy of St. Luke. He was a pupil of François de Troy, whose bright colors, warm tones and skin tones, as well as the red smear of the backgrounds, he uses. With its maturity, the processes of execution change little, but the colder shades, the less tinted lights give the colors more finesse. In the same way, he works the chiaroscuro of his idol: Rembrandt. In addition to the master's light, Grimou also appreciated his "authentic" approach to the subjects. From 1720 until his death, Grimou, master of his technique and art, made many portraits. In 1724 he made a self-portrait on which he pictured himself with a glass in one hand and a bottle in the other. Another Drinker that same year gave rise to replies. These second paintings are of the same dimensions and vary from the first model only by a few details of staging or clothing. Similarly, the remarkable Young Pilgrim and Young Pilgrim dated 1725 and kept at the Uffizi Museum in Florence were taken over in 1729 and 1732. Grimou died in 1733 known and appreciated, but only for his painting because he had, they say, a character considered "strange and singular". It is in his classical art that Grimou realizes this portrait of a young man, using the usual chiaroscuro, and the strong contrast of the carnation in relation to the dark clothes. The subject is replaced in the sixteenth century by his costume with puff sleeves and wide scarlet strawberry, whose execution gives it a lightness of tulle.