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Aubusson Tapestry, Country Game, 18th Century



5 800 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Wool

Width : 160 cm

Height : 267 cm

Description

- Tapestry with a gallant scene woven in the 18th century in an Aubusson workshop.- Complete restoration carried out in 2014 in the restoration workshop of the Royal De Wit Manufactory.The weaving presented is centered on a rural amusement; the pleasant activity of the seesaw. The elegantly dressed young woman, a tambourine in her hand, is seated close to the ground while the young man opposite is in the air, hat in hand.- The landscape in the background (river, green banks, small village) places this gallant scene in a picturesque setting. The composition is punctuated by a large central tree, serving as an anchor for the swing and extending over the entire height of the tapestry.- Adding to the decorative character of the piece, the simulates a fluted frame around which long,

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golden acanthus leaves and bouquets of flowers are wrapped.This weaving can be attributed to the Aubusson workshops, based on designs by Jean-Baptiste Oudry, who successfully translated a series of pastoral pastimes into tapestry form. The tapestry depicts the scene titled "Le Balanceur" (The Seesaw); this episode belongs to a suite of designs making up the "Amusements champêtres" (Pastoral Pastimes) series, originally painted by Jean-Baptiste Oudry as tapestry cartoons for the Beauvais Manufactory. "Le Balanceur" illustrates a seesaw game in which players sit at either end of a tree trunk balanced across the fork of a tree. A reproduction of a weaving based on the same design is featured (see last photo) on page 214 of the book *Aubusson, Tapisseries des Lumières - Splendeurs de la Manufacture Royale, fournisseur de l'Europe au XVIIIe siècle*. Although the border differs, it also serves as a key to the Aubusson attribution, as it is identical to the border of a tapestry held at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg (also illustrated on page 186 of the aforementioned book), which is likewise identified as an Aubusson work from the second half of the 18th century.- Very satisfactory state of conservation (complete restoration carried out in 2014 in the restoration workshop of the Royal Manufactory De Wit). Lined, hanging system in place (Velcro strip).- Dimensions: Height: 267 cm Width: 160 cm