



PROANTIC
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Renaissance Cameo, Bacchante



3 900 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

Cameo Depicting a Bacchante in Profile
Renaissance period, probably Italy, 16th century
Three-layered agate, green stones (emeralds?)

H. of the cameo: 2,4 cm

Total height : 3,15 cm

Gold and metal setting

This finely crafted cameo features the bust-length profile of a Bacchante, a female figure associated with the Dionysian entourage in Greco-Roman mythology. Her face is framed by wavy locks of hair, adorned with green stones to represent ivy leaves, a symbol of her connection to Bacchus. Draped in a nebris--a fawn skin knotted at the shoulder--she embodies sacred ecstasy and Dionysian enthusiasm.

Dealer

ES Works of Art

Haute époque, antiquités

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sur rendez-vous

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The Renaissance artist, inspired by antique models, skillfully exploited the natural stratification of the agate to create depth in the composition: the dark background contrasts with the pale complexion of the face, while the details of the drapery and hair emerge in an intermediate hue.

The Renaissance, characterized by a deep fascination with classical antiquity, witnessed a revival of the art of cameo engraving, encouraged by patrons and collectors, particularly in Italy. This cameo reflects the period's taste for mythological references and the technical virtuosity inherited from ancient gem engravers. A prestigious object, it may have adorned an elaborate mount (such as a ring or pendant) or been kept as a cabinet piece, showcasing the refinement and erudition of its owner.