



PROANTIC
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18th Century, Italian Painting With Saint Nicholas And The Miracle Of The Brick



11 500 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 109

Height : 136

Depth : 10

Description

18th

Century, Italian painting with Saint Nicholas and the miracle of the brick Oil on canvas; Frame cm H 136 x W 109 x D 10.

Canvas cm H 100 x W 74 The oil on canvas painting, with a seventeenth-century style moulded lacquered and gilded wood frame, depicts Saint Nicholas who participates in the council of Nicea and defends the dogma of Trinity through the miracle of the brick. The subject is rarely treated in painting and refers to the alleged presence of Saint Nicholas of Myra (today Bari - Italy) at the Council of Nicaea of 325 in the presence of the emperor Constantine. According to tradition, during the council Saint

Dealer

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Cherasco 12062

Nicholas would have strongly condemned
Arianism, defending orthodoxy and making
a miracle.

The first ecumenical council of the Christian
world was the wish of the emperor
Constantine I, concerned with the internal
religious dissensions that occurred
when the doctrine of the priest Arius of
Alexandria in Egypt spread, which
excluded the divinity of Jesus, Claiming that only
the Father is truly God,
while the Son is not eternal, he was born in time:
before being created by the
Father his did not exist.

The bishops of the empire took part in the council
and it is assumed that Saint
Nicholas also participated, considering the short
distance between Myra and
Nicaea and the fame he already enjoyed. In his
"Historia di S.

Nicolò" (Naples 1620) the historian and
theologian Antonio Beatillo
reports that to put an end to the discord about the
nature of the Trinity,
Nicola took a brick in hand and explained that to
compose it are earth, water
and fire: but this doesn't contradict the fact that
the brick exists as a
brick. The same was to be understood for the
Father, the Son and the Holy
Spirit, merged in the Trinity. The miracle
happened: from the brick "a
flame flashed that rose to heaven, water gushed
on the ground, clay remained in
his hands".

The
painting describes exactly the miraculous moment
from which, from the brick
held by Saint Nicholas and placed in the center of
the composition, the fire is
lit above and water flows to the ground. Around,
the other bishops,
identifiable by the mitria they carry on their head,
the other religious and

philosophers, assist surprised. On the right,
standing high above a low relief
sculpted architectural element, there is
Constantine, who reacts with
astonishment to the miracle, pointing at the brick
with his left arm. The scene
takes place inside a building with fluted columns
and a voluminous drape theat
to emphasize the importance of the throne.

The
painting, of beautiful artistic quality, is the work
of a painter active in
Naples in the eighteenth century, as suggested by
the analysis of the style
with which the composition and expressiveness
of the characters are resolved.

The work, besides being significant for the rare
subject and of
historical-theological value, is also decorative
thanks to the use of a vibrant
and well-balanced color palette.

We
apologize for any translation errors from the
Italian.