



PROANTIC
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19th Century French School - The Invention Of The Relics Of Saint Benedict?



1 500 EUR

Signature : Ecole française du XIXe siècle

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré

Material : Oil painting

Width : 46,5 cm (57,5 cm avec le cadre)

Height : 56 cm (68 cm avec le cadre)

Description

French school of the 19th century Monks excavate and find ancient relics Oil on canvas 56 x 46.5 cm (68 x 57.5 cm with the frame) Beautiful period frame in gilded wood Good condition (some restorations - see photo of the back) It is likely that this painting represents the "invention" (therefore the rediscovery) of relics. Perhaps those of Saint Benedict because we recognize the habit of the Benedictine monks. There is an account of this rediscovery of the relics of Saint Benedict at the monastery of Monte Cassino near Rome by an anonymous contemporary (published in French by Father Dom François Chamard, Benedictine of the Abbey of Ligugé in France (Paris, 1882)): "In the name of Christ. There was in France; a priest instructed in the school of his pious abbot. He resolved to go to Italy to seek out

Dealer

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where the bones of the holy Father Benedict lay ungracefully buried. Finally, he arrived at a deserted place, 70 or 80 miles from Rome, where Saint Benedict had once built a monastery and strengthened it by fostering brotherly charity among those who lived there. (...) "Having then made a more careful examination of the place, they discovered a sepulchral stone, which they drilled. Having then broken it, they found themselves in the presence of the bones of the holy Abbot Benedict." (...) "God had doubtless revealed these holy relics to these pious kidnappers, in order to make the holiness of his servant more dazzling to the eyes of men. This goal was almost immediately achieved; for the linen used to enclose the body appeared to be stained with blood so crimson that one would have thought it emanated from a living body. "Our painting recalls a work by the troubadour painter Charles Louis Lesaint entitled "Canons Excavate and Find Ancient Relics", a painting he exhibited at the Paris Salon of 1822. Charles Louis Lesaint was one of those troubadour painters often copied in his time for his anecdotal, picturesque and romantic subjects.