



PROANTIC  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

## 18th Century, Flemish School, The Apparition Of The Angel To The Shepherds



2 800 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 54

Width : 69

### Description

18th century, Flemish school  
The apparition of the angel to the shepherds  
Oil on panel, cm 54x69  
With frame, cm 78x90  
In a dark and deep night, the tetra atmosphere appears suddenly illuminated by a supernatural light that rips through the darkness. At the center of this ethereal glow, a majestic angel makes his appearance, suspended on soft clouds that radiate their own light. His figure is imposing but serene, with wide and vaporous wings that unfold in a riot of chiaroscuro. His gaze is on the shepherds below, his hand stretched in an eloquent gesture, almost to want to communicate a message of divine scope. The shepherds, caught by surprise, react with a mixture of astonishment and awe. Some are kneeling, almost prostrate by the magnificence of the vision, with their hands

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joined in prayer or raised up as a sign of wonder. Their faces, illuminated by the heavenly glow, express an intense emotion, a sense of sacredness that permeates the whole scene. We notice their simple clothes and their humble tools abandoned beside them, to underline their condition as ordinary people chosen to attend an extraordinary event. The Flemish artist responsible for the painting shows himself fully able to play with the contrasts of light and shadow, approaching the main masters operating north of the Alps in that period. The enveloping darkness of the nocturnal landscape highlights even more the intense luminosity emanating from the angelic figure and the surrounding clouds, creating a mystical and transcendental atmosphere. Little angels, almost luminous putti, float around the main figure, adding a touch of grace and dynamism to the composition.