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## Crucifixion - Veneto-cretan School C1550, In The Style Of Theophanes The Cretan



3 900 EUR

Signature : École Vénéto-Crétoise, circa 1550, dans le goût de Théophane le Crétois

Period : 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Other

Width : 21 cm

Height : 26 cm

### Description

A superb tempera artwork on a wooden panel depicting the Crucifixion of Christ, executed in the late Byzantine style of the Veneto-Cretan school, which was very active in the 16th century. This work particularly evokes the style of Theophanes the Cretan, a major figure in the post-Byzantine pictorial revival. Christ on the cross sits enthroned in the center, surrounded by the sacred figures of the Virgin Mary, Saint John the Evangelist, Mary Magdalene, and a Roman centurion, all depicted in a pose of sacred emotion and tension. In the background, stylized architecture evokes the walls of Jerusalem, painted in a vivid red characteristic of the Cretan palette. The cracked floor reveals a skull in a cavity, a symbol of Adam and redemption. Tempera on wooden panel, with a

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partially preserved gold leaf background.

Pigments: Expressive use of red ochre, olive green, and deep blacks; white impasto highlights for the faces and the folds of the

clothing.Scenography: Controlled symmetry around the cross; hieratic figures and expressive gestures; the ample drapery of the clothing reflects a strong influence from Cretan workshops trained in Venice.Composition: Stylized

architectural background, schematic vegetation (two trees on each side), monumental central cross.Iconography: The scene is enriched by

major symbolic elements such as the cruciform halo, Christ's bleeding wounds, and the dramatic contrast between earthly pain and the celestial backdrop.In the 16th century, the island of Crete

was under Venetian rule. The Veneto-Cretan school established itself as an artistic melting pot, blending traditional Byzantine codes with

Western influences (particularly those of the Italian Renaissance). Theophanes the Cretan, active between Crete, Constantinople, and Mount Athos, is one of the most prominent painters of this period, renowned for his powerful and mystical scenes, such as those depicted in this work.Type: Religious icon (Crucifixion of Christ)Origin: Veneto-Cretan SchoolPeriod: 16th century (circa 1550)Medium: Tempera on wood panel, with traces of gildingDimensions: 26 x 21

cmCondition: Very good condition considering its age; some superficial wear; very beautiful original patina.Sixteenth-century Cretan icons occupy a central place in post-Byzantine art. They embody the transmission and transformation of the Orthodox heritage under Western influence. This piece, halfway between the Byzantine tradition and the Italian Renaissance, illustrates this stylistic hybridization of great historical and artistic richness.This work is distinguished by:The finesse of its execution,Its rarity (small private format, not intended for liturgical use),Its excellent condition,Its strong decorative and devotional value.Excellent Careful shipping#AncientIcon #ByzantineIcon

#VenetianCretanSchool #TheophanesTheCretan  
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