



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Flemish Artist Active In Italy, 17th Century, Maddalena Penitente



2 800 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 37

Width : 30

Description

Flemish artist active in Italy, 17th Century
Maddalena penitente
Oil on board, cm 37.5 x 30.5
With frame, cm 53 x 45
Provenance: Galleria Luigi Bellini, Florence; Private Collection, Padua.
This painting, which depicts a penitent Magdalene, presents a composition with elements that recall the baroque style and Flemish influences. In the center of the scene, Magdalene sits in a rocky and cloudy landscape, with an expression of deep contemplation or repentance. Her posture is relaxed but her gaze is directed upwards or outwards, suggesting a spiritual dimension. She wears simple clothes, with a white shirt and a darker dress, which fall back with softness, highlighting the folds and volumes. Her right hand is resting on the cheek, a common gesture to express reflection or sadness. In her left

Dealer

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hand he holds a white cloth. Next to her, a putto (or baby angel) is reading an open book on a rocky surface. Its presence could symbolize the divine wisdom or the reading of the Scriptures that accompany the path of penance. Above them, in the cloudy sky, two more putti fly. One of them, in the foreground, holds a branch with leaves, perhaps a symbol of life or redemption. The clouds, painted with a certain dynamism, create an ethereal and dramatic atmosphere. The landscape is characterized by dark rocks and sparse vegetation on the left, which contribute to create an atmosphere of solitude and introspection, typical of the representations of the penitent Magdalena who retreats in the desert. The light comes from above, illuminating the faces of the characters and the main parts of the scene, creating chiaroscuro contrasts that add depth to the painting.