



PROANTIC  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

## French School (c. 1880) - Vanitas Of The Cello



2 900 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

### Description

- Oil on canvas.- In this large French canvas from the 1880s, silence seems to have been suspended, paying homage to motionless objects. The scene opens with a cello resting melancholically on a chair covered with a patterned red blanket, as if waiting for the return of hands to make it vibrate again. On the table, a blue and white earthenware vase bearing the inscription "S. Martin," a burnished metal plaque, and a half-open pomegranate--a metaphor for the ephemeral and the vital--complete the composition. The deep, dark green background evokes the thickness of a barely perceptible landscape, while the soft light caresses each surface, emphasizing the richness of the textures and the chromatic density of the scene. This painting is part of the French still life tradition of the late 19th century, a time when

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painters sought both fidelity to detail and the creation of atmospheres laden with symbolism. The cello, an instrument for transmitting the human voice, gives the work a lyrical and almost romantic dimension, while the draperies and everyday objects sublimate the banal. The treatment of light, which glides over the ceramics and metal with refined sobriety, reveals a clear influence of the Dutch Baroque reinterpreted with fin-de-siècle French sensibility. In short, this painting is a pictorial meditation on suspended time, sensory memory and the dialogue between the ephemeral and the lasting.- Dimensions of the unframed image: 97 x 132 cm / 110 x 145 cm, with a magnificent contemporary frame.- Galerie Montbaron includes a technical sheet prepared by a certified art historian with all its lots. This sheet is sent in digital format upon request.