



PROANTIC

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## 16th Century Icon Of The Virgin And Child, Cretan Venetian School / Mary / Saint John / Christ



5 300 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Painted wood

Width : 42,5 cm

Height : 47 cm

### Description

Splendid icon depicting Mary and Christ accompanied by the infant Saint John the Baptist. The style and great finesse of this rare icon allow it to be attributed to the famous Cretan-Venetian school of the 16th century -- around 1500-1550. This school developed from the 15th century onwards in Crete -- but also in Cyprus -- which were then possessions of the Republic of Venice. It is characterized in particular by the very marked influence of the Italian Renaissance on the older Byzantine iconographic canons. The expressions are notably less severe and the features more modeled and realistic. In this composition, Mary embraces her sons with infinite tenderness. The infant Christ blesses, his gaze turned towards the spectator, thus encouraging him to follow his path. Symbolizing

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his omnipotence, he supports a terrestrial globe in his left hand. At his feet and holding a cross, Saint John the Baptist is in adoration, his hands crossed on his chest and his gaze turned towards Christ and Mary. The facial expressions are particularly gentle and deep, inviting contemplation. This icon is made in tempera (egg yolk-based paint) in warm tones with a dominance of red and blue on a background entirely gilded with leaf, symbol of divine light. Very good general condition of conservation with a superb patina. Some wear of time, cracks and small losses consistent with the great age of this work which is sold with its certificate of authenticity and a complete description. Old but later frame. Dimensions without frame: Height: 35.5cm Width: 30.5 cm Dimensions with frame: Height: 47 cm. Width: 42.5 cm