



Workshop Of Jules Joseph Lefebvre (tournan-en-brie 1836 - Paris 1912) "nymph And Young Bacchus"



2 800 EUR

Signature : Atelier de Jules Joseph Lefebvre (Tournan-en-Brie
1836 - Paris 1912)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Réentoilé

Material : Pastel

Width : 75

Height : 100

Description

In an Arcadian landscape, within vegetation bordering a bay, a young woman and a child are depicted. The theme is clearly mythological: the child is in fact the young Bacchus, god of wine and ecstasy, dressed in animal skins, portrayed in a playful attitude with a half-naked nymph, wrapped in a golden drapery. She holds in her hand a bow and arrows as well as a freshly hunted bird, probably a reference to the education of the young deity. The unusual pair is shown seated on a rock; the nymph supports the child with her legs, while he arches his back playfully. On the right, a marble herm is represented, another allusion to classical tradition. The tender scene is set at the edge of a forest, among trees and reeds, and opens onto a bay characterized by calm and tranquil waters. The pastel technique

Dealer

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enhances the softness of the bodies and the subtle shading of the contours in this beautiful mythological scene. The painting can be attributed to the circle of the painter Jules Joseph Lefebvre (Tournan-en-Brie 1836 - Paris 1912). He trained at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, where he studied under Léon Cogniet, and soon established himself as an academic painter. In 1861, he won the Prix de Rome with the painting *The Death of Priam*, which allowed him to reside at the Villa Medici. A specialist in portraiture and especially in the female figure, he became famous for his idealized and allegorical nudes, characterized by a polished finish and a beauty inspired by classical ideals. He was also a respected teacher at the Académie Julian, where he trained numerous French and foreign students, contributing to the spread of international academicism. He received many official honors, was elected a member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts in 1891, and was awarded the Légion d'honneur. Lefebvre stands as one of the masters of French academic art in the second half of the nineteenth century, appreciated both for his formal elegance and for his pedagogical influence.