Mythological Scene (circle Of) Hendrick Van Balen (1575-1632)



3 500 EUR

Signature : (entourage de) Hendrick van Balen

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 53

Width : 42

Description

Hendrick van Balen (1575-1632) - Mythological Scene: Venus, Cupid and a Satyr Oil on canvas - Dimensions: 53 x 42 cm (unframed), 74 x 63 cm (framed) A member of the early 17th-century Flemish school, this refined work illustrates a mythological scene with rich symbolism, typical of the northern humanist tradition. In the foreground, a kneeling satyr is held back or repelled by a young winged Cupid, while two nude nymphs, probably identified with Venus and one of her attendants, observe the scene with an attitude of mixed modesty and amusement. Draped in rich carmine fabrics, they embody ideal beauty and classical sensuality. The scene echoes recurring themes in Flemish Baroque painting: the triumph of celestial love (Cupid) over bestial instincts (the satyr), or temptation

Dealer

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and virtue, in a play of moral and aesthetic contrasts. Far from a simple gallant scene, the work offers an allegorical reading of desire mastered by the force of pure love. The quality of the execution is remarkable. The flesh is rendered with a rare delicacy, with a subtle and luminous modeling, particularly in the female figures. The treatment of light reveals a sense of volume and detail typical of Van Balen, while the mysterious and dense forest background creates an intimate atmosphere conducive to the scene. Painted on canvas, the work is presented in a 19th-century frame, with sculpted and gilded decoration, which elegantly underlines the richness of the composition. A mythological scene of great finesse, rich in symbols and executed with all the refinement of the Flemish school. Ideal for collectors of ancient art, lovers of mythology or baroque allegory.