Pierre-emmanuel Damoye (1847-1916), The Painter Before The Wave, Oil

2 500 EUR



Signature : Pierre-Emmanuel DAMOYE (1847-1916)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Width : 59,5

Height : 32

Description

Pierre-Emmanuel DAMOYE (1847-1916) Painter by the Sea on the Rocks Oil on mahogany panel, signed lower right Dimensions: 32 x 59.5 cm Dimensions with frame: 43.5 x 73 cm Some minor losses to the gilding on the frame. This painting depicts a rare and highly evocative scene in Damoye's oeuvre: a powerful seascape, dominated by rugged rock and the force of the waves, where, in the foreground, we can distinguish the silhouette of a painter working outdoors, seated facing the ocean. The artist represents an extremely jagged, rocky coastline, rendered with broad, vigorous, and angular brushstrokes, typical of his style of constructing landforms. The rocks, painted in a warm palette of browns, pinkish ochres, and dark earths, form an ascending diagonal that structures the entire

Dealer

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composition. In the background, the raging sea occupies the entire horizontal band. The broad, foamy waves, a very pale blue-green, are rendered with great freedom, giving the impression of continuous movement. The milky gray, almost uniform sky contributes to this slightly hazy atmosphere, which reinforces the power of the landscape. On the rocks, slightly to the left of the center, a small, dark figure can be discerned: a seated painter, focused on his canvas (a very delicate blue brushstroke giving substance to the painting). The silhouette is deliberately sketched, almost absorbed by the immensity of the setting, creating a superb contrast between the smallness of the man and the wild grandeur of the seascape. It is a beautiful mise en abyme by Damoye: a painter depicting a painter outdoors. Damoye was born in Paris on February 20, 1847. A student of Corot, Daubigny, and Bonnat at the École des Beaux-Arts, he continued the tradition of his teachers and the Barbizon school. After his first Salon in 1875, he became famous for his plein air realism. He won the gold medal at the Universal Exhibition in 1889. In 1890, he became one of the founding members of the Salon of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, alongside figures such as Puvis de Chavannes, Meissonier, and Rodin. This institution, more modern than the official Salon, offered him a space where he could present a freer, more atmospheric, and more poetic style of painting. His works can be found in several French museums, including the Musée d'Orsay.