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A Pair Of Portraits Of Beauties Depicted As Elves By Josef Grassi (1755-1838) , Attr.to

4 000 EUR



Signature : Josef (Giuseppe) Grassi (1755-1838)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Paper

Width : 23,6

Height : 34,5

Description

A pair of portraits of beautiful girls, depicted as elves, was executed on the turn of 19th century and have very close similarities to be attributed to well known Austrian-German neoclassical portraitist Josef Grassi. Josef (Giuseppe) Grassi was born ca 1758 in an Italian family , which lived in Vienna from the 17th century. In 1768, 10 years old, he began studying at the Vienna Academy, and very soon achieved great success, especially among women, as a skilled portraitist, miniaturist and later as painter of larger portraits in oil. In 1791 Grassi was admitted as member to the Vienna Academy for his portrait works. Already in 1790, through, he moved to Poland. In Warsaw, on the recommendation of J.-B. Lampi, he got the vacancy of a painter at the court of the Polish

Dealer

**Alte Kunst**

Fine Arts 17th - early 20th centuries

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King Stanislaus August II. In 1793, upon Lampi's return to Vienna, Grassi advanced to the favorite portraitist of Polish court and high aristocracy. 1797 was obviously the year of Grassi's first visit in Castle Sagan in Silesia (now Czech Republic). Later stays at the castle followed. The duchess von Sagan is supposed to be the person who helped Grassi to commissions and to Academy professor title (1800) in Dresden, where he taught along with Anton Graff. During next years the artist spent a year in Gotha, and from 1808 to 1820 lived in Rome, enjoying great popularity. From 1821 he lived in Dresden again, leading a secluded life without any official job. He died there in 1838. Provenance: Viennese private estate. Literature: Thieme/Becker "Allgemeines Lexikon der bildenden Künstler.", Leipzig, 1999; Prof. H. Fuchs "Austrian Miniature Artists" (in German), Vienna, 1975. Inscription: unsigned. Technique: pastel, chalk on paper. Original period Classicism. Measurements: unframed w 7 1/4" x h 11 3/8" (18,5 x 29 cm), framed w 9 1/4" x h 13 5/8" (23,6 x 34,5 cm). Condition: in good condition.