



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Oil On Canvas Child Jesus With Cross 17th Century Guido Reni (workshop)

2 800 EUR



Signature : Guido Reni bottega

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 90

Width : 70

Description

Subject: Baby Jesus with crossPeriod: 17th centuryAuthor: Guido Reni (workshop)L' the work we present constitutes an original revival and elaboration of the Renian prototype of the "Baby Jesus sleeping on the cross". In fact, the aforementioned model enjoyed particular success above all due to the growing demand for the iconographic subject represented by collectors in the Bolognese and Roman fields. The reasons for this fortune are rooted first of all in the intuition, entirely Renian, of merging in a single iconographic subject the classical and pagan theme of the Sleeping Cupid with the Christian one of the Passion of Christ, symbolically prefigured through an explicit reference to the Old Testament biblical text of the Song of Songs (V, 2), an intuition qualified by Strinati as a true

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"invention" of Reni. This harmonious fusion will be the fulcrum of another pictorial representation, famous in Reni's various versions: the martyrdom of Saint Sebastian, a new Apollo depicted in the guise of the Christian martyr alien from the torments of the flesh, all aimed at awakening sensual voluptuousness (Guido Reni, *Il tormento e l'estasi, I san Sebastiano a confronto*, edited by P. Boccardo and X. Salomon, 2007). Caravaggio's previous works are evident (Caravaggio, "Sleeping Love", Florence, Palatine Gallery), visibly traceable already in a painting present in the Corsini collection in Rome and ascribed to Reni by Boehn (M. von Boehn, Guido Reni, Leipzig 1910, 1925 reprint). To Reni, to whom Malvasia repeatedly attributes "Sleeping Cupids", a "Sleeping Putto" has been traced in a private collection in Milan (Riccoboni, "Emporium", 1961), without a cross, as well as a similar subject in the Durazzo Pallavicini collection in Genoa (Torriti, 1967). In particular, the sleeping putto mentioned by Riccoboni is a revival of a work by Reni (oil on copper) kept at the Princeton Art Museum and depicting Ges