Night Fire In A Dutch Town By Egbert Van Der Poel, 17th Century



2 600 EUR

Signature : Egbert van der Pöel

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Length : 21 cm (30 cm avec le cadre)

Width : 17 cm (26 cm avec le cadre)

Description

Night Fire in a Dutch Town, oil on canvas, dimensions 17 cm x 21 cm, with its antique frame 26 cm x 30 cm, by Egbert van der Poel (1621-1664). This striking small panel vividly depicts a nighttime urban fire, a recurring theme in the work of Egbert van der Poel. The scene, bathed in a dramatic orange light, shows a Dutch town engulfed in flames. The steep roofs, the central church tower, and the silhouettes of the buildings evoke 17th-century architecture typical of the Low Countries. In the foreground, figures bustle about in boats on a canal, seeking to flee or offer assistance, while others struggle in the burning streets. Van der Poel, active in Delft and Rotterdam, specialized in depictions of disasters, particularly fires, which he rendered with narrative precision and a vibrant palette. This

Dealer

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painting belongs to the Dutch tradition of the lively cityscape, but with a dramatic tension that sets it apart. It may allude to the tragic explosion of the Delft gunpowder magazine in 1654, an event he depicted on several occasions. The composition is dense and dynamic, structured around the contrast between the darkness of night and the flashes of fire. Van der Poel masterfully manipulates light, playing with reflections in the water and cast shadows. The figures, though small, are expressive and contribute to the narrative. The small format accentuates the intimacy of the scene while maintaining remarkable visual power. The work is presented in a blackened wood frame with a gilt border, typical of 17th-century Dutch framing. A nameplate indicates the artist and dates. The state of preservation is good, with excellent legibility of detail and a well-preserved palette.