



19th-century Italian School - Festival In The Forest

600 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Length : 270

Height : 125



Description

19th-Century Italian School

Feast in the Forest

Ink on paper,
125 x 270 mm

Provenance:

Private collection

This work, attributed to the 19th-century Italian school, depicts a moment of festivity or gathering in a wooded clearing, where numerous human figures blend with the trees and play of shadows in a dense and vibrant composition. Executed in pen and ink on paper, this sketch or study conveys a scene of great vitality, brought to life through nervous and expressive linework.

19th-century Italy, marked by the gradual unification of the peninsula and a diversity of artistic movements, saw the emergence of many

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regional talents, often trained in the local academies of Florence, Rome, or Milan. While some artists of the period turned to a Neoclassical heritage, others explored a more Romantic, picturesque, or even proto-Impressionist approach to light and landscape.

In this drawing, the treatment of the subject evokes an almost theatrical atmosphere: the figures seem to converse, dance, or rest in a setting that blends conviviality with mystery. The use of line -- at times swift and nervous, at others more precise to define specific groups -- suggests a compositional study rather than a finished work, but one that remains fascinating for its spontaneity.

Here we find a typically Romantic desire to depict humanity in communion with nature, in a space that is both real and idealized. The vegetal forms, rendered in an abundant and energetic graphic style, create a natural curtain through which the viewer is invited to pass. This visual language, reminiscent of the sketchbooks of traveling painters or stage designers, calls to mind certain pastoral scenes by Giovanni Fattori or Telemaco Signorini, major figures of the Macchiaioli movement -- though without their use of color.