



Venice, Quattrocento - 15th Century - Tempera And Gold Leaf



7 800 EUR

Signature : Ecole Vénitienne du XVème siècle

Period : Before 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Other

Width : 24 cm

Height : 28 cm

Description

Venice, 15th Century (Quattrocento)
Madonna and Child - Tempera and Gold Leaf on
Original Curved Panel

A transitional work between Late Byzantine
sacred tradition and the awakening of the
Venetian Renaissance

A Devotional Image at the Crossroads of
Civilizations

Created in 15th-century Venice, this refined
tempera panel reflects a pivotal artistic moment
when Byzantine sacred imagery met the emerging
humanism of Renaissance Italy.

Its intimate dimensions (28 x 24 cm) and original
curved top indicate private devotional use. This is
a painting meant for close contemplation -- not
public display, but spiritual dialogue.

Dealer

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Iconography: Sacred Authority and Emerging Humanity

The composition follows the Byzantine Eleousa type -- the Virgin of Tenderness.

Mary inclines her head toward the Child with restrained emotion. Her expression carries quiet melancholy. The Christ Child blesses in the traditional Greek manner, his face rendered with the solemn maturity typical of Eastern iconography.

Yet here, something evolves.

The sacred distance softens.

The emotional bond deepens.

The image breathes.

Stylistic Context and Attribution

Venice maintained profound artistic connections with Crete and the Byzantine world throughout the 15th century. While Florence embraced perspectival innovation, Venice sustained and refined gold-ground traditions.

This panel demonstrates that subtle transition:

Angular drapery derived from Byzantine prototypes

Incised and tooled gold halos

Linear elegance

Early attempts at volumetric modelling

A new psychological softness in the faces

Proposed attribution:

Venetian School, circa 1460-1480, workshop influenced by late Italo-Byzantine tradition.

Technique and Materiality

Egg tempera on gessoed wood panel

Incised gold leaf background

Mineral pigments (vermilion, azurite, lead white)

Gold striations enhancing textile luminosity

The chromatic harmony -- deep carmine red, dark blue, oxidized gold -- creates a contemplative, meditative acknowledging the painting's devotional function.

The reverse displays historic woodworm activity, long inactive and structurally stable, reinforcing

the panel's authenticity.

Historical Significance

This work stands at a threshold:

It preserves the metaphysical stillness of Byzantine sacred art while gently introducing Renaissance humanity.

Such transitional Venetian devotional panels, especially in original format, are increasingly scarce on the international art market.

Dimensions

28 x 24 cm

Original curved-top format
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