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Oil On Panel: "at The Clear Fountain" - Luigi Loir



1 200 EUR

Signature : Luigi Loir (1845-1916)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Width : 37,5 cm

Height : 46 cm

Description

At the Clear Fountain, circa 1875. Signed lower right. This work is part of a series of eight decorative panels painted by Luigi Loir to adorn the woodwork of the private drawing room of Aristide Boucicaut, founder of the Parisian department store Au Bon Marché. Although created around 1875, the scene depicts figures dressed in 18th-century costumes, reflecting the historicist and decorative taste then in vogue in the interiors of the Parisian upper middle class. The composition portrays a moment of daily life around a monumental fountain, in a lively urban setting reminiscent of a village square. In the foreground, two young women in everyday dress are busy drawing water: one, kneeling, holds out a jug which an elegant passerby quickly fills, while her companion, standing, observes the

Dealer

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scene with an expression that blends mischief and curiosity. The male figure, holding a cane and hat, introduces a touch of understated gallantry, reinforcing the narrative and charming character of the whole. In the background, the fountain adorned with a vase of flowers and the surrounding architecture, rendered with a light and atmospheric touch, create a harmonious setting where sociability, everyday life, and elegance intertwine. Through this delicate scene, the artist develops an intimate and decorative style, perfectly suited to its original purpose, while subtly idealizing everyday life. This work also served as a model for chromolithographic advertising cards distributed by Le Bon Marché to its clientele, illustrating the early dialogue between art and commercial communication. This work is catalogued in the artist's archives by Mr. Noé Willer, confirming its authenticity and prestigious provenance.