



Jean-baptiste Massé Miniature Court Portrait Of A Couple In Costume And Wig

900 EUR



Signature : Jean-Baptiste Massé (suiveur)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Ivory

Width : 12

Height : 10,5

Description

Miniature under glass - Portrait of a couple in 18th-century costumes (gallant scene) - in the style of Jean-Baptiste Massé - blackened frame with rocaille decoration, beveled glass - 12 x 10.5 cm. This miniature depicts a couple in bust form in an interior, treated in the manner of society portraits of the Ancien Régime. On the left, a gentleman with a powdered wig, dressed in a coat embellished with buttons and trimmings; on the right, a lady in a light-colored dress, with bare shoulders and draped fabric, holding cherries and a bird. The faces are delicately modeled, with attention to fabrics, lace, and gestures, in the spirit of 18th-century society scenes. A charming intimate scene, with a distinctly 18th-century vocabulary: elegant poses, restrained psychology, and refined details of dress. The miniature plays

Dealer

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on allusion: a portrait of a couple that borrows from the conventions of courtly conversation, while maintaining a restrained style. Through its subject matter (a couple indoors), its pursuit of worldly grace, the softness of the skin tones, and the attention paid to embroidery and ornamentation, the work can be compared to the style of Jean-Baptiste Massé, a miniaturist of the court in the 18th century, in the spirit of French society miniatures. Cherries traditionally represent youth, freshness, and the game of seduction (a symbol of awakened senses, a promise). The bird held in the hand evokes captive or tamed love, the fragility of feeling, and the idea of a bond or messenger. Their association constitutes a gallant code: a suggested amorous "conversation," typical of 18th-century society images. France (or production intended for French taste), 19th century. Painted miniature, under beveled glass. Overall dimensions: 12 x 10.5 cm. Image size: approx. 8 x 6.8 cm. Trace of a signature in gold at the bottom left (partially legible). Good overall condition. Note: small abrasion on one face (superficial alteration). Frame with patina and signs of wear. Blackened carved frame with rocaille decoration, under beveled glass. Back covered with marbled decorative paper.