Anton Marussig, The Nymph And The Forest Dwarfs



190 EUR

Signature : ANTON MARUSSIG

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Length : 29 cm

Height : 20 cm

Description

ANTON MARUSSIGTHE NYMPH AND THE FOREST DWARFSANTON MARUSSIGGraz, 1868 - 1925 GrazPencil on paperSigned and dated lower right: AM 191720 × 29 cm / 7.9 × 11.4 inWith mount: 31 × 40 cm / 12.2 × 15.7 inThe graphic language of Central European illustration at the beginning of the twentieth century was profoundly shaped by the influence of the famous Munich satirical journal Simplicissimus. Artists associated with this circle developed a vivid and expressive style built on energetic line, caricatural exaggeration and theatrical narrative scenes.The present drawing by Anton Marussig, dated 1917, clearly belongs to this visual tradition. Executed with lively and confident pencil strokes, the composition unfolds almost like a small stage scene: a dancing nude

Dealer

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female figure -- perhaps a woodland nymph or allegorical spirit of nature -- appears before a group of mischievous forest dwarfs, creatures deeply rooted in Alpine and Germanic folklore.The animated reactions of the dwarfs, their expressive faces and humorous gestures give the scene a playful and slightly grotesque character that recalls the spirit of illustrated magazines and graphic satire of the period. At the same time, the drawing demonstrates Marussig's skill as a draftsman and storyteller, capable of transforming a simple sheet of paper into a vivid narrative image.Seen today, works of this kind represent one of the last brilliant moments of this expressive Central European graphic language. Within only a few years, the visual culture of the 1920s would move toward the clearer, more purified forms associated with the emerging aesthetics of Art Deco.Anton Marussig (1868-1925) was an Austrian painter and illustrator active in Graz. After studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Munich, he returned to his native city where he taught drawing and painting, receiving several official distinctions, including the Gold State Medal in 1912. His work ranges from landscape and genre painting to illustration and graphic art.