



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Belgian School, Late 19th Century - View Of The Port Of Ostend, The Emperor's Quay - Oil On Cardboard

350 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on cardboard

Width : 30 cm / 43,7 cm encadré

Height : 22,3 cm / 36 cm encadré

Description

Belgian School, late 19th century. View of the port of Ostend, the Emperor's Quay. Oil on cardboard. Blackened wood frame in the 17th-century Dutch style with a gadrooned profile. This beautifully executed Impressionist painting vividly captures the bustle of the port of Ostend in the last quarter of the 19th century. The composition is organized from the basin, whose dark, shimmering waters occupy the foreground, towards a line of buildings, most of which have now disappeared. At the center of the scene stands a monumental red-brick building with high Flemish gables and a bell tower topped with a Baroque spire--likely the Kaaiport (quay gate) or an institutional building, now demolished, which gave this part of the port its distinctive architectural character. This structure, destroyed

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during the First or Second World War--the port suffered heavy damage during the raids of 1918 and the fighting of the Second World War--lends this work a certain documentary and memorial value. In the foreground, a group of fishing boats and black-hulled sailboats are moored at the quay, their angled masts crossing the vertical line of the tower. To the right, towards the background, other vessels can be seen, including a steamer with a light smokestack, as well as a slender lighthouse--details that place the scene in the late 19th century, a period when the port of Ostend had to be modified to accommodate ships whose size and draft were constantly increasing. The Belgian flag (black-yellow-red tricolor) is visible in the center, firmly anchoring the scene in its national context. The palette, dominated by warm browns, pearl grays, and muted ochres, bathes the scene in a diffuse, cloudy light typical of North Sea skies. The brushwork is free and energetic, reflecting a painting style influenced by the Belgian Impressionist movement of the generation of Vogels and Claus. The work is presented in a simple yet elegant 17th-century Dutch-style frame of ebonized wood with a gadrooned profile, perfectly suited to the composition's tone. The artwork can be viewed and collected at the gallery (07240). Shipping: please contact us for shipping costs within France and internationally.