



Portrait Painting Of A Young Romantic Dandy Man, Oil On Canvas, 19th Century



650 EUR

Signature : école Française

Period : 19th century

Condition : Restauré

Material : Oil painting

Width : 60

Height : 72

Description

Portrait of a Romantic Dandy, French School, circa 1830, oil on canvas, antique gilt frame, 72 x 60 cm. An elegant portrait of a young man from high society, depicted half-length in a restrained and distinguished pose. The sitter wears a black frock coat, a very low-cut white waistcoat, and a wide black cravat adorned with a small red jewel, probably a rosette or a tie pin with honorific connotations. The work is captivating for the psychological depth of the face, the gentleness of the gaze, and the sitter's commanding presence, typical of romantic bourgeois portraiture in the second third of the 19th century. The well-balanced composition rests on a neutral brown background that isolates the figure and focuses attention on the face. The painter has prioritized human truth over ostentation: the sitter

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appears serious, reserved, almost meditative, with that quiet elegance characteristic of the finest civil portraits of the July Monarchy. The contrast between the dark masses of the garment and the whiteness of the waistcoat lends the whole a striking decorative authority. This is a work in the vein of bourgeois Romantic portraiture, poised between a still disciplined drawing inherited from Neoclassicism and a more intimate, supple, and already fully Romantic sensibility. The face is the painting's strongest point: soft modeling, a direct yet introspective gaze, a thin mouth, and subtly nuanced skin tone. The garment, treated more broadly, serves as a foil and highlights the head, a characteristic feature of privately commissioned portraits of this period. This painting can be compared to French civilian portraits from the time of the July Monarchy, in a spirit akin to certain provincial or secondary Parisian workshops influenced by a simplified Ingresque style. It shares a taste for the portrait of notables, for restrained distinction, for black attire, and for a psychological presence devoid of narrative excess. French School, circa 1830, July Monarchy/early Second Republic period. The figure, the costume, and the overall spirit of the work are consistent with this dating. Oil on canvas. Overall dimensions 72 x 60 cm. Antique painting that has undergone significant restoration. Relined. Numerous retouchings, wear, and old restorations. The work nevertheless retains a beautiful decorative presence and a very appealing interpretation, particularly in the treatment of the face and the gaze.