



Manuel Fernández Padial (1907-?) - The Shell Game (inspired By Themes By David Teniers)



450 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Description

Oil on panel. Signed. This work by Manuel Fernández Padial, created in the 1930s, is a masterpiece of pictorial historicism that transports the Spanish picaresque novel into the somber interiors of the 17th-century Flemish and Dutch tradition. With a mastery reminiscent of the precision of masters such as Adriaen van Ostade or David Teniers the Younger, Padial places the rogue at the heart of a psychology of deception, where his manual dexterity and calculating gaze contrast with the hypnotic allure of the drunken revelers, bathed in a shimmering, golden light. The artist manages to capture not only the rogue's financial gain, but also the triumph of wit over vice in a tavern that becomes a stage for human vanities. The influence of the Dutch Golden Age is evident in the almost palpable treatment of

Dealer

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textures: the gleam of glazed earthenware jugs, the roughness of the wood, and an atmosphere thick with condensation, all defined by Padiá's palette of earthy tones, ochres, and browns. Every everyday object, from an overturned stool to a playing card lying on the floor, is rendered with meticulous detail, giving the scene the air of a true social study. Ultimately, this canvas is an exercise in technical virtuosity that testifies to the continued relevance of the classical tradition in interwar Spain, employing the language of the old "minor masters" to narrate a picaresque, timeless and universal scene. - Image dimensions without frame: 44 x 37 cm / 70 x 63 cm with exclusive custom-made frame.