



## école Française (c. 1880) - The Secret Love Game

1 100 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood



### Description

Oil on solid wood panel. Ah, the twilight of powdered wigs and tuberoses sagging under the weight of a sigh! Under the canopy of a silken sky that tears into amethysts, the young viscount, with his reed-thin waist and abysmal gaze, pours out the pearls of his words before the audacious princess, whose laughter is a necklace of broken diamonds on the velvet of the night. There, among boxwoods trimmed with the severity of a stone page and jasmines exhaling their white souls in an orgy of perfume, conversation burns like a golden censer in a ruined temple. He speaks to her with the cadence of a wounded alexandrine, with words that are butterflies of fire fluttering above Her Highness's snowy cleavage; she responds with her fan, that language of mother-of-pearl and silk that encodes and

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decodes the secrets of a heart no longer afraid of scandal. Two swans of royal blood search for each other in the shadows, while in the distance, like an echo of violins drowned in champagne, the murmur of the country feast vibrates: a polyphony of courtly laughter and agonizing minuets. It's the danse macabre of an aristocracy crowned with roses before the axe, a sophisticated languor that knows it's ephemeral, but prefers to burn in a forbidden madrigal rather than succumb to the grayness of time. O divine frivolity of bloodlines that die among flowers! Every syllable exchanged in this dark corner is an Eros arrow bathed in the poison of Versailles; it's the desire of the flesh that knows itself to be divine and the terror of the statue that aspires to feel. While the Ancien Régime lets its last vestiges of elegance fade away, they - the Vicomte des Rêves and the Princesse de l'Audace - etch their history in the ephemeral air of the garden, knowing that tomorrow, when the sun of reason rises, all that will remain will be the trace of a faded petal and the scent of a kiss, a kiss which, in its ardor, was the most beautiful epitaph of a century of lace.- Image dimensions unframed: 150 x 70 cm / 165 x 85 cm with a spectacular custom-made antique frame.