



Theatrical Set Design For An Underground Mausoleum

1 500 EUR



Signature : Pietro di Gottardo Gonzaga (1751-1831)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Paper

Length : 45,5

Width : 35,5

Description

Pen drawing in brown ink and gray watercolor (wash) depicting a stage design by the master of perspective, Pietro di Gottardo Gonzaga. This sheet perfectly illustrates the Neoclassical era's fascination with fantastical and monumental architecture, strongly influenced by the engravings of Giovanni Battista Piranesi. The scene depicts an evocative underground funerary structure or an ancient crypt. At the center, beneath an imposing coffered vault, stands an elevated monument topped by statues of dignitaries or priests in classical garb, flanked by large sacrificial vases. Monumental staircases lead to lower galleries guarded by Egyptian-inspired sphinxes and stelae engraved with pseudo-hieroglyphs or ancient mystical inscriptions, a recurring motif in the "Return from

Dealer

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Egypt" style and in late 18th-century theatrical works. Pietro di Gottardo Gonzaga excels here in his rendering of depth and chiaroscuro, creating a dramatic and solemn atmosphere typical of the grand sets created for La Scala in Milan and the imperial theaters of St. Petersburg.