Giovanni Battista Castello, Miniature "christ In The Garden Of Gethsemane," Late Mannerist



7 800 EUR

Signature : Giovanni Battista Castello, dello Il Genovese (Genova 1547 - 1637)

Period : 16th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Parchment

Width : 42

Height : 51

Description

A refined miniature attributed to Giovanni Battista Castello, known as "il Genovese," the foremost master of Ligurian miniature painting between the late 16th and early 17th centuries. The work depicts Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane, supported by an angel, an episode of intense spirituality and profound devotional impact.The composition features on the left the monumental figure of Christ supported by the large winged angel, immersed in aluminous glow that dominates the scene; on the right appear the sleeping apostles, rendered on a smaller scale and almost dissolving into the nocturnal landscape. In the background, beyond a stone arch leading into the Garden of Gethsemane, soldiers accompanied by Judas can be seen in the act of pointing to Jesus.The work is loosely inspired by the famous

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painting by Paolo Veronese executed in the 1580s, now housed at the Pinacoteca di Brera. The miniature fully highlights the figurative style of Castello, deeply rooted in Mannerist and late16th-century painting, with references to the Venetian, Emilian, and Ligurian traditions.The harmonious palette, the elegance of the drawing, the meticulous attention to color, and the taste for airy landscapes attest to the artist's extraordinary technical skill, renowned at European courts and also active for Philip II of Spain.Giovanni Battista Castello was born in Genoa in 1547. The brother of the painter Bernardo Castello, he was initially a goldsmith before devoting himself entirely to miniature painting, restoring this technique to new splendor within the cultural climate of the Counter-Reformation. His fame was celebrated by literary figures such as Angelo Grillo and Giambattista Marino.Dimensions:51 x 42 cm (with frame)16.5 x 14 cm (without frame)ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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