



**PROANTIC**  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Antique Painting, 18th Century - Leclerc Des Gobelins (french School/painting) - Neoclassical



650 EUR

Signature : Jacques Sébastien Le Clerc dit Leclerc des Gobelins (École de)

Period : 18th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Oil painting

Length : 19 cm

Width : 23 cm

#### Description

Jacques Sébastien Le Clerc (School of)The SphinxAllegorical/neoclassical/mythological sceneXVIIIth centuryOil on canvasDescriptionThis allegorical or mythological scene was most likely conceived as a preparatory sketch for a larger composition yet to be identified, although the remarkable expressiveness of the figures and their facial features is no less noteworthy.At the centre of the work unfolds a group of four women dressed in antique attire and engaged in an offering ceremony: one carries a basket on her head, another gathers fruit or flowers in the folds of her drapery, while a third kneels beside a second basket. A fifth figure, positioned in the lower left corner, completes the ritual scene. The composition is set within an idealised garden

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embellished with a classical urn on a pedestal, a sphinx, and a female statue serving as the focal point of the act of devotion. These various elements suggest a tribute to a deity associated with nature, fertility, or abundance, such as Flora, Pomona, or Venus. Through its decorative vocabulary and pastoral atmosphere, the work is firmly rooted in the Neoclassical tradition, in which the poetic evocation of Antiquity often takes precedence over the depiction of a specific mythological narrative. Condition The canvas has been mounted onto a cardboard panel and is housed in a gilt frame with gold leaf decoration. The readability of the composition is affected by several cracks (of which the most significant, measuring approximately 8 cm, is located in the lower left corner) as well as by areas of lifting paint. Small losses, no larger than a pinhead, are notably visible in the left-hand section of the painting and on the hand of one of the women in the central group. The texture of the canvas is visible through the paint layer. Under raking light, the varnish appears glossy, and several impasto passages accentuate the draperies and the figures' breasts. No restoration work has been identified.