



Gaston La Touche Antique Wood



5 900 EUR

Signature : Gaston La Touche

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Width : 53

Height : 72

Description

Gaston La Touche, born in Saint-Cloud in 1854, spent most of his life there and died there in 1913. A Post-Impressionist painter and pastel artist, he moved in the avant-garde circles of Paris. In the 1870s, he frequented the Nouvelle Athènes district, a hub of Parisian Romanticism where writers, musicians, and painters gathered. It was in this setting that he formed a friendship with Édouard Manet and met Émile Zola, for whom he illustrated **L'Assommoir** in 1879, inspired by the Realist movement. Around 1890, La Touche met Félix Bracquemond, whom he considered his mentor. Under Bracquemond's influence, he turned to themes inspired by the 18th century, such as courtly festivities and "à la Watteau" scenes, characterized by light, opalescent tones. This distinctive style brought him great success.

Dealer

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and numerous awards at the Salons des Artistes Français. Subsequently, his work evolved toward Symbolist compositions, revealing an exceptional mastery of watercolor and pastel. In **Le Bois antique**, the ethereal rendering of the landscape and figures creates a mysterious atmosphere, oscillating between dream, pagan ceremony, mythology, and fantasy. La Touche also distinguished himself as a decorator, receiving prestigious commissions. He notably created *Fête de Nuit* for the Élysée Palace, an allegory of feminine love for the Ministry of Agriculture, as well as four panels representing the arts for the Ministry of Justice, now preserved in the Senate (on loan from the Musée d'Orsay). He also worked on renowned private projects, such as the decoration of the golden room at the restaurant *Le Train Bleu* in 1900, featuring a view of Antibes, and the grand hall of Edmond Rostand's villa in Cambo-les-Bains, between 1905 and 1908. The works of Gaston La Touche are held in numerous museums in France and abroad, such as the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Rouen, and the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Nantes.