



Large-format Oil On Canvas--lively Landscape--17th-century Dutch School

3 800 EUR



Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 110 cm

Height : 71 cm

Description

Animated Landscape with Pilgrims and a Mill
Dutch School, 17th Century
Large-Format Oil on Canvas
Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.
Important animated landscape attributable to the Northern Netherlands of the 17th century, depicting a lively scene near a watermill. The composition is arranged around a deeply rutted path, travelled by several popular figures: pilgrims, peasants, travellers, and others. On the right, two pilgrims of Saint James, identifiable by their walking staffs and pilgrim cloaks, make their way towards a town visible in the background. The town can be distinguished by its church tower, its enclosing walls, and a fixed bridge providing access to the settlement. This urban presence, together with the mill established near a stream or canal, evokes the

Dealer

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landscapes of the Dutch Provinces, where mills, often situated at the entrances to towns, played a major economic role. At the centre of the scene, a peasant appears to be conversing with the miller's wife on the threshold of the mill, while a donkey loaded with sacks waits nearby. The episode may be interpreted either as the delivery of rye or barley intended for grinding, or, conversely, as the collection of sacks of flour. These narrative details, typical of Dutch painting of the Golden Age, give the work a picturesque, social, and documentary dimension. The edge of the path is dotted with flowers, indicating the fair season, while two seated figures, one of them one-legged, introduce a note of humanity and realism. The whole composition belongs to that Northern tradition in which landscape is not merely decorative, but becomes the stage for abundant daily life, combining observation of reality, popular anecdote, and meditation on travel. A particularly unusual element appears in the lower left foreground: a portrait in medallion form. This inclusion, uncommon in a landscape scene of this type, may evoke the painter himself, a patron, or a commemorative figure connected with the work. This rare detail is one of the most intriguing aspects of the painting and deserves further study. The work bears no visible signature. The treatment of the landscape, the presence of the mill, the animated road, the pilgrims, and the fortified town on the horizon allow this composition to be associated with the world of Dutch or Northern European landscape painting of the 17th century. Condition report: Relined canvas mounted on a wooden stretcher. Regular and sound craquelure network. Very good overall state of conservation. In the lower section, a few losses and whitish traces can be observed, corresponding to localized losses of the paint layer. These alterations remain limited and do not affect the overall legibility of the composition. The work presents good structural stability and a satisfactory reading of the scene. The frame shows a few losses with areas of regilding. Signs of use,

rubbing, and small scattered chips along the outer edges. Old circular stamp on the reverse, applied to the stretcher. Measurements:

- o Canvas: 110 × 71 cm
- o Outer frame dimensions: 127 × 88 cm

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