Italian Portrait Of A Bishop With A Crosier, 1700



600 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Prévoir restauration

Material : Oil painting

Width : 28,5 (17,5) cm

Height : 34,5 (24,5) cm.

Depth : 4 cm.

Description

Portrait of a Bishop with a Crosier, 1700 The painting depicts a holy bishop or a high-ranking prelate, portrayed in half-length with his face in three-quarter profile to the right, his intense gaze directed directly at the viewer. The figure wears a miter (the ceremonial headdress), richly decorated with gems and geometric inlays, and holds a crosier (the staff with a golden spiral finial) in his left hand, a symbol of his role as a spiritual leader. The face is that of a mature or elderly man, characterized by a thick, dark beard that falls to his chest and large, stern eyes, rendered with bold strokes. He wears dark liturgical vestments embellished with gold embroidery or brocade, visible on his shoulder and chest, with a hint of a reddish stole or ribbon at the bottom. The work draws on devotional

Dealer

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painting and sacred portraiture of the Baroque or late Baroque period (17th-18th centuries). The style is characterized by strong chiaroscuro contrasts (tenebrorism) that make the face and the golden symbols stand out against the completely dark background. The brushstrokes are bold, almost archaic in certain details of the face and beard--a characteristic typical of works associated with provincial painting or the schools of central and southern Italy, which placed great emphasis on the dramatic expressiveness of the subject. The work shows clear signs of aging and structural alterations that affect its legibility: The entire painted surface is crisscrossed by an extremely pronounced and deep network of cracks (craquelure), which partially lifts the paint film, giving the painting a strongly textural and rough appearance. The protective varnish on the surface is heavily yellowed and darkened, a phenomenon that has flattened the midtones and rendered the background almost completely black. Small chips and flaking of paint are visible along the outer edges of the canvas/support, likely caused by rubbing or previous framing. It is presented in an old frame with a slightly wider bevel.