



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

18th-century Louis XVI Trumeau With Allegorical Painting Depicting Greco-roman Mythology



930 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Other

Length : 80

Height : 162 cm

Depth : 2,5 cm

Description

Louis XVI trumeau in gilded wood with a beaded frame. Allegorical painting. Oil on canvas, previously re-stretched. Lower section: mercury mirror Upper section: scene from Greco-Roman mythology (Ovid's **Metamorphoses**, Apuleius's **The Golden Ass**). The painter seems to have sought to depict a pivotal moment in the love story of Cupid (Eros) and Psyche. Cupid, on the right side of the canvas, is about to shoot an arrow at Psyche, obeying the orders of his mother Venus (Aphrodite), who, jealous of Psyche's extraordinary beauty, intends to take revenge by making her fall in love with a mere mortal. Psyche, situated on the left side of the canvas, is depicted with her large "butterfly" wings; she seems unaware of Cupid's presence, despite the quiver at her feet. We witness the first romantic

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Mobile : 0631408132

Rue de la Lebrethière

Lourmarin 84160

encounter between Psyche and Cupid here, as Venus's plan for revenge is doomed to fail: Cupid, acting clumsily, accidentally wounds himself with his own arrow, causing him to fall madly in love with the beautiful Psyche. The moral of this story is that, despite Venus's jealousy and hatred--which sought to prevent Psyche from being happy and condemn her to a life of solitude and lovelessness--Love always triumphs. Condition: generally good condition, with a few minor flaws in the frame. Dimensions: 162 x 80 x 2.5 cm