



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

A Pastel, *little Girl With A Doll* By Berthe Berthe Burgkan



4 800 EUR

Signature : Berthe Berthe BURGKAN

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Pastel

Width : 49

Height : 58

Description

Berthe BURGKAN (1855-1936) Dated 1890, there is a record of a pastel titled *Child with a Doll* at the 1891 Salon, which could be the one we are presenting here. Our pastel was exhibited at the Musée de Vernon as part of the exhibition "La Ronde des bambins," June 3-August 27, 2023. A student at the Académie Julian, she studied under the greatest painters of her time, including Gustave Boulanger, Benjamin Constant, and Tony Robert Fleury. Beginning in 1878, Burgkan exhibited at the Salon des Artistes Français, as well as at the "Les Arts de la Femme" exhibitions, and continued to show her works until 1920. In 1885, she received an honorable mention at the Salon, and at the 1889 Paris World's Fair, she also received official recognition. She became a member of the Société

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des Artistes Français in 1883. In 1893, she participated in the prestigious World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The artist demonstrated her talent in classical floral compositions as well as in more complex symbolic works and pastels. In her pastels, she enjoyed capturing the effects of light, and the subtle expressions on faces, sometimes imbued with mystery or melancholy. This work illustrates Berthe Burgkan's interest in intimate portraiture and the depiction of childhood, a theme that was popular in the second half of the 19th century. The artist does not merely aim to faithfully reproduce the child's physical features: she also captures the child's sensitivity, accurately conveying the innocence of childhood, as well as the child's liveliness and personality. The doll, discreetly incorporated into the composition, reinforces the atmosphere of tenderness. Contemporary reviews note: "There is a very bold and very personal touch of truth in these children's rosy faces beneath their blond mops of hair: the constant search for truth."