



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Watercolor, "young African" By Gustavo Simoni



4 200 EUR

Signature : Gustavo SIMONI

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Water color

Width : 62

Height : 75

Description

Gustavo Simoni (1846-1926) Painter, watercolorist, and teacher, he devoted most of his career to depicting landscapes, architecture, and scenes of daily life in North Africa, while developing a deeply personal vision of the East, in which precise observation is combined with remarkable pictorial sensitivity. In 1861, he joined the prestigious Academy of San Luca, where he studied under Francesco Podesti and Dario Querci. But Simoni quickly became interested in developments in modern painting and particularly admired the work of Mariano Fortuny, whose luminous brushwork, technical virtuosity, and taste for Orientalist subjects would exert a decisive influence on his art. In 1875, he was among the founding members of the Association of Roman Watercolorists, where he exhibited

Dealer

Galerie Saint-Martin

Antics, Furniture, Paintings, Fine art

Tel : 01-42-60-83-65

5 et 11 rue des Saints-Pères

Paris 75006

regularly. Beginning in 1877, Gustavo Simoni undertook a series of journeys that would permanently transform his work. He traveled through France, Spain, and then, above all, North Africa, spending extended periods in Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco. It was in Algeria that he found his true source of inspiration. He settled for several years in the old city of Tlemcen. He participated in the Paris Salons, where he exhibited his immense composition *Alexander at Persepolis* in 1889, which earned him a gold medal at the Paris Salon. In this watercolor, Gustavo Simoni combines remarkable precision in his drawing with great freedom of execution. The blue drapery, rendered with subtle transparent washes, captures the folds and the light with astonishing lightness. The cast shadow, a true graphic element, reinforces the modernity of the composition, where the simplicity of the setting highlights the figure's full expressive power.