



PROANTIC
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Justice And Divine Vengeance Pursuing Crime, Based On Prud'hon



1 250 EUR

Signature : Prud'hon

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 48

Width : 40

Description

Justice and Divine Vengeance Pursuing Crime French School, 19th Century, after Pierre-Paul Prud'hon (1758-1823) Very good condition, old relining.

Frame dimensions: 48 × 40 cm.

An old copy after one of Pierre-Paul Prud'hon's most celebrated masterpieces, Justice and Divine Vengeance Pursuing Crime, now preserved in the Louvre Museum. The composition presents a powerful moral allegory. In the foreground lies the murdered victim, while Crime, dagger in hand, attempts to flee. Descending from the night sky, Justice, armed with her sword, is accompanied by Divine Vengeance carrying a flaming torch, whose light exposes and

Dealer

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relentlessly pursues the guilty man. The contrast between the deep darkness, the dramatic chiaroscuro, and the sweeping movement of the figures gives the scene remarkable dramatic intensity. This faithful copy successfully conveys the expressive power of the original while preserving the elegance of Prud'hon's drawing, the softness of his modelling, and the poetic atmosphere that characterizes his art. Presented in a giltwood frame, it is a fine testament to the popularity and dissemination of the master's great compositions throughout the nineteenth century. In 1804, Nicolas Frochot, Prefect of the Seine, commissioned Pierre-Paul Prud'hon to paint a monumental work for the Criminal Court of the Palais de Justice in Paris, the equivalent of today's Court of Assizes. Prud'hon developed several preparatory designs before completing this monumental composition, which was exhibited at the Salon of 1808. The painting achieved immediate and considerable success. Contemporary critics praised the power of its conception, the originality of its allegorical language, and the poetic quality of its chiaroscuro, which departed from the strict conventions of traditional Neoclassicism. Napoleon himself honoured Prud'hon by awarding him the Legion of Honour at the Salon of 1808. The painting has remained one of the most celebrated allegorical representations of justice under the First Empire and eventually entered the permanent collection of the Louvre Museum after leaving the Palais de Justice. Born in Cluny in 1758 and deceased in Paris in 1823, Pierre-Paul Prud'hon ranks among the leading figures of French painting between the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Trained in Dijon before continuing his studies in Rome, he developed a highly personal style in which the ideals of Antiquity are combined with an early Romantic sensibility. His paintings are distinguished by the delicacy of their drawing, the refinement of their lighting effects, and their profound poetic emotion. Although a sought-after portrait painter

during the Napoleonic era, he is above all renowned for his great allegorical compositions, of which Justice and Divine Vengeance Pursuing Crime remains his undisputed masterpiece and one of the most iconic works of French painting under the First Empire.