



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

The Melancholic Musketeer



1 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Length : 48

Width : 41

Description

This remarkable 19th-century oil painting on wood captures the intimacy of a musketeer caught in a moment of deep melancholy. Seated at a table in the dim light of a tavern or a spartan interior, the man is portrayed in the classic posture of contemplative stillness: his face resting on his left hand and his gaze lost in the distance, far from the turmoil of battle. With his right hand, he gently holds the hilt of his sword, a symbol of watchful repose or past glory upon which he reflects. The composition draws its strength from a skillful use of chiaroscuro, clearly inspired by Caravaggio or the Flemish masters. The vivid red of his doublet and the luminous white of his puffed-sleeve shirt contrast sharply with the dark, monochromatic background, drawing attention to the character's psychological intensity. On the

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wooden table in front of him, a half-empty wine glass, a glazed stoneware jug, and a few discarded playing cards accentuate the atmosphere of solitude and the sense of the vanity of earthly pleasures. The work is enhanced by a rich, contemporary frame made of wood and gilded stucco, which beautifully highlights the painting's warm color palette