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Venetian Capriccio With Boats In The Harbor, 18th Century, Painting



700 EUR

Signature : École vénitienne, XVIIIe siècle

Period : 18th century

Condition : A restaurer

Material : Oil painting

Length : 24

Width : 20

Description

Venetian School, 18th centuryCapriccio with Boats in the HarborOil on canvas, 24 × 20 cmOriginal stretcherFrame 40 × 34A refined 18th-century Venetian capriccio depicting an imaginary harbor view, in which architectural elements, lagoon vistas, and boats are harmoniously combined in accordance with one of the genres most appreciated by international patrons in 18th-century Venice.The work, in a pleasing room-sized format, retains its original stretcher.The composition is constructed according to a carefully calibrated perspective. In the foreground, on the left, an architectural backdrop rises, consisting of buildings that serve as a scenic element and draw the viewer's gaze toward the landing stage. In the center are several transport vessels with slender masts and

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meticulously rendered rigging, brought to life by small figures engaged in harbor activities. In the background, the lagoon opens toward a line of hills bathed in atmospheric light that gradually dissolves the forms, in a style fully characteristic of the 18th century. The rendering of the sky is particularly successful, traversed by moving clouds and a low-angle light that creates an effective contrast between the architectural masses in shadow and the illuminated horizon. The color palette, dominated by blues, greens, and warm browns, highlights a fluid and vibrant style of painting that focuses more on atmospheric effects than on descriptive detail. The capriccio is one of the most characteristic genres of 18th-century Venetian painting. Unlike the topographical view, which faithfully reproduces a recognizable place, the capriccio arises from the artist's free imagination, combining real buildings, classical ruins, imaginary architecture, and lagoon vistas into an idealized composition. This pictorial language appealed to the tastes of the cosmopolitan patrons of the Grand Tour, who were eager to acquire images that conveyed not so much a precise urban record as the cultured and romantic atmosphere of the Serenissima. The capriccio thus stands halfway between landscape, theatrical set design, and archaeological fantasy, becoming one of the most sought-after artistic products on the 18th-century European market. The work is part of the tradition pioneered by Marco Ricci, a true innovator of the Venetian landscape, who introduced a free, luminous, and highly theatrical style of painting. This artistic language was developed by Luca Carlevarijs, the first great Venetian vedutista, and reached full maturity in the inventions of Michele Marieschi, creator of famous capricci in which architecture becomes a theatrical and dynamic element. The compositional structure of this painting--with its architectural backdrop on the side, the harbor bustling with sailing ships, and the luminous opening toward the horizon, also recalls certain innovations by Francesco Albotto

and the circle of Venetian landscape painters active in the second half of the 18th century, in whose works topographical description gives way to a more lyrical and atmospheric vision. Despite its small size, the painting demonstrates a strong command of spatial composition and the rendering of light--qualities that suggest the hand of a painter trained in the Venetian lagoon region and well-versed in the major models of contemporary Venetian painting. Restorations and paint retouching on the left side, along with small areas of missing paint, do not compromise the work's legibility.- All our works are accompanied by a detailed certificate of authenticity.- Professional packaging and insured shipping to ensure maximum safety during transport.- For further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at +39 329 319 4887 - info@dequart.com- Option for VIDEO CALLS and in-person viewings by appointment in MILAN and BORGOMANERO (NO).- Additional information and photos: www.dequart.com IG - FB @dequ.art