



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Italian School C.1750 - Athena Appearing To Bellerophon With Pegasus, Ink Drawing

420 EUR



Signature : École italienne vers 1750

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Length : 21 cm

Height : 14,5 cm

Description

ITALIAN SCHOOL, circa 1750

ATHENA APPEARING TO BELLEROPHON

Pen and brown ink on paper

14.5 × 21 cm

Framed: 17 × 23 cm

In small, rapidly executed drawings of this kind, the mythological subject can often be difficult to identify. Here, however, several details suggest a particularly rare episode from the story of Bellerophon.

The scene recalls Pindar's Thirteenth Olympian Ode, in which Athena appears to Bellerophon in a dream and presents him with a golden bridle. With this divine gift, the hero is able to capture and tame Pegasus. The goddess appears to be holding the bridle while pointing towards the winged horse visible in the distance.

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The lively and economical penwork suggests that the drawing may have been conceived as a preliminary study for a larger mythological composition.