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Large Carved And Gilded Wooden Frame In The Baroque Style With A Portrait, 19th Century



8 800 EUR

Signature : d'après Guido Reni

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 127 cm

Height : 148 cm

Description

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An imposing 19th-century decorative ensemble centred around an exceptionally elaborate carved and giltwood frame, distinguished by its substantial scale, pronounced sculptural depth and dense ornamental treatment. The painting contained within it, an oil on canvas after the celebrated portrait traditionally identified as Beatrice Cenci and associated with Guido Reni, should be regarded primarily as a complement to the highly decorative character of the frame. The frame is constructed around a large oval opening bordered by a deeply carved repeating foliate moulding. Surrounding it is an extensive sculptural decoration set against a finely textured, punched ground. Large acanthus scrolls, curling foliage, volutes, floral elements and strongly

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projecting vegetal motifs cover virtually the entire surface.

A particularly distinctive feature is the series of sculpted female heads incorporated into the ornament. Emerging from arrangements of foliage and scrolling forms, they provide focal points throughout the composition and contribute significantly to the three-dimensional quality of the frame. Their modelling, combined with the considerable projection of the surrounding carved decoration, creates pronounced changes of depth across the surface.

The outer borders are formed by substantial mouldings enriched with additional foliage, scrolling ornament and large volutes. At the corners the carving becomes especially vigorous, projecting well beyond the principal plane of the frame. The decoration is arranged on several levels, producing strong natural contrasts of light and shadow and giving the frame an almost architectural presence.

The central painting depicts a young woman wearing a loosely arranged pale head covering against a dark background, following the composition after Guido Reni. Its comparatively restrained palette provides an effective contrast to the richness and volume of the surrounding gilded carving.

Technique and materials

Carved and gilded wood frame with extensive high-relief decoration. The workmanship combines deeply carved ornament, moulded borders and finely textured background areas. The central painting is oil on canvas.

Dating

19th century. The frame belongs to the historicist tradition and draws extensively upon Baroque decorative vocabulary, particularly through its monumental acanthus scrolls, volutes, sculpted heads and emphasis on strongly projecting relief.

Condition

Good overall condition consistent with age. Age-related wear, minor losses and irregularities to the gilding are visible. The preserved patina

enhances the modelling and depth of the carved decoration. Condition as shown in the photographs.

Function and display

Because of its scale and strongly sculptural construction, the frame functions as a major decorative element in its own right. The ensemble is particularly suited to a large reception room, gallery, entrance hall or classical interior requiring an object with substantial architectural presence.

Dimensions

frame height - 148 cm

frame width - 127 cm

painting height - 93 cm

painting width - 77 cm