



PROANTIC
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Erminia Among The Shepherds, Stefano Magnasco (genoa, 1635-1673) Workshop



8 900 EUR

Signature : Stefano Magnasco (Gênes, 1635 - 1673) Atelier

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : encadré 137 cm.

Height : encadré 113 cm.

Description

Stefano Magnasco (Genoa, 1635-1673)

WorkshopErminia Among the ShepherdsOil on

canvas97 x 122 cm.Framed: 113 x 137 cm.The

painting depicted here illustrates the episode of

Erminia Among the Shepherds, one of the most

famous themes in Baroque art, taken from Canto

VII of Torquato Tasso's poem *Jerusalem

Delivered* (VII, 1-22).In the passage cited,

Erminia, Princess of Antioch, who is secretly in

love with the Christian hero Tancredi, witnesses

her beloved being wounded in a duel. Driven by

love, she dons the armor of the warrior Clorinda,

her close friend, to reach him at night and tend to

his wounds.But at the Christian camp, a ray of

moonlight illuminates her, and, mistaken for the

fearsome Clorinda by the sentries, she is forced to

make a hasty escape: She thus arrives at a village

Dealer

Antichità Castelbarco

Old master paintings

Tel : +39 333 2679466 - Alessandro Padovani

Viale Giuseppe Canella, 18

Riva del Garda 38066

on the banks of the Jordan River, inhabited by shepherds who live far from the war in an idyllic and serene atmosphere, while all around the war between Christians and Muslims rages. There, she asks to be taken in for a while in the vain hope of forgetting her ill-fated love. Here we see her portrayed in the company of an elderly shepherd listening to the music of his three sons, who confides in her that he had lived for a long time at the lavish court of Memphis in his youth, but had abandoned it to escape the intrigues and corruption, taking refuge in that poor but utterly serene life. This passage is one of the most famous in the poem because it introduces the theme of the pastoral idyll: the old man explains to her how a simple life, in touch with nature and free of ambition, protects him from the horrors and destructive passions of the war raging not far away. The composition is based on a clear visual and emotional antithesis, faithful to the structure of Tasso's poem: Erminia wears armor and a magnificent helmet; yet her face expresses no aggression, but rather a regal grace that shines through despite her disguise. Our painting depicts the moment when the young woman, captivated by this way of life, decides to stay and choose the path of peace, carving the name of her beloved Tancredi and the story of her ill-fated love into the bark of the trees. The work, of pleasing pictorial quality, displays a vibrant and luminous brushstroke, fitting seamlessly into the mid-17th-century Genoese milieu: it is specifically a canvas attributable to the Baroque painter Stefano Magnasco (Genoa, 1635-1674), or to an artist from his workshop--an important exponent of the Genoese Baroque school and father of the famous Alessandro Magnasco (known as "il Lissandrino"). Clearly influenced by masters such as Valerio Castello, whose student he was, and Domenico Piola, Magnasco's paintings are distinguished by their strong chiaroscuro contrast, the theatrical expressiveness of the figures, and the rich colors of the drapery: the use of bright red color fields, for example,

which we see here in the cloak enveloping the figure of Erminia, was a distinctive trait employed by the painter to create drama in his epic scenes. Specifically, the painting perfectly illustrates the stylistic characteristics of his work, which--although he trained in Castello's workshop--is strongly influenced by the Flemish masters who had worked in Genoa; his fluid and luminous brushstrokes, in fact, blend the Genoese tradition with the theatrical compositions and color choices introduced by Rubens and Van Dyck in Genoa. ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION: The painting comes with an attractive gilded frame and is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity and a descriptive iconographic sheet. We handle and arrange the shipping of purchased works, both within Italy and internationally, using professional, insured carriers. If you would like to view this or other works in person, we would be delighted to welcome you to our new gallery in Riva del Garda, located at Viale Giuseppe Canella 18. We look forward to seeing you! Please contact us for any information or to schedule a visit; we'll be happy to assist you. Follow us on: <https://www.instagram.com/galleriacastelbarco/?hl=it> <https://www.facebook.com/galleriacastelbarco/>