



PROANTIC
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Franco-flemish Master (c. 1570) - Portrait Of A Canon In Front Of Our Lady Of Graces



6 500 EUR

Period : 16th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Description

- Oil on oak panel. Inscription indicating the date and the donor's age at the time the portrait was painted ("ÆTATIS. 37. A°. 1571"). An interesting heraldic depiction featuring a displayed eagle on a gold field, clearly indicating imperial lineage. The support and paint layer are in good condition.- This panel, precisely dated to 1571, is an exceptional testament to the artistic maturity achieved in the Low Countries at the end of the 16th century. During this period, the lessons of the Italian Renaissance were fully assimilated and reinterpreted by the Flemish masters, giving rise to a refined and highly intellectualized Mannerism. The composition articulates a dual spatiality characteristic of Mannerist art, where the earthly plane--tangible, austere, and rigorously structured--coexists with a

Dealer

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divine sphere presided over by the vision of Notre-Dame des Graces, a particular version of the Immaculate Conception deeply revered in the region of Northern France and Flanders.

Enveloped in a mystical sky that breaks with classical geometric perspective, this Marian image imbues the painting with a rich devotional and territorial significance. The true power of the canvas lies in the magnetic presence of the clergyman, portrayed in a three-quarter view in an attitude of intense prayer before a breviary, whose figure dominates the lower half of the canvas with undeniable dignity. The meticulous rendering of the flesh tones, the definition of the beard, and the serene yet penetrating gaze evoke the great tradition of Flemish court portraiture (Mor, Pourbus...). His attire--a magnificent surplice with sculptural folds and the classic ruff collar, along with the open book--reveals a highly learned clergyman, likely a canon or magistrate associated with a prestigious institution.

Furthermore, the inclusion of the heraldic shield featuring a displayed eagle and the inscription indicating his exact age reinforce the work's function as a powerful portrait of intellectual power, status, and devotional affirmation on the eve of the great religious upheavals of the era.-

Dimensions of the image without frame: 85.5 x 67.5 cm