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The Wedding At Cana - Frans Francken II (1581-1642)

9 700 EUR



Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Length : 54.5

Width : 40

Description

Oil on wood panel, attributed to Frans Francken, depicting The Wedding at Cana, set in a large wooden frame. The composition is distinguished by a profusion of figures, a wealth of detail, and a polychromy characteristic of 17th-century Flemish painting. At the center of the scene stands Christ, crowned with a halo, dressed in a red robe and a crimson cloak. According to the account in the Gospel of Saint John, Jesus, his mother, and his disciples are invited to a wedding in Cana when the wine runs out. Christ then asks the servants to fill several jars with water; the water is then miraculously turned into wine. On the left, several servants are busy around the well and the jars. In the center, Christ, raising his right hand, performs the miracle. Seated around two tables arranged at an angle are the

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guests, including the bride and groom, some of whom are dressed in particularly sumptuous costumes. Three figures on the right side of the composition attract particular attention: a scholar seen from behind, wearing a coat richly embroidered with gold and featuring a wide white collar; a young girl in a bright red dress, and, beside her, an elderly man wearing a long coat, a wide fur collar, and an imposing red headdress. The particularly precise rendering of his face might suggest a self-portrait of the artist, though this hypothesis is difficult to confirm. In the upper part of the room, a painting resting on a pedestal richly laden with food depicts The Fall of Adam and Eve. This depiction could constitute a moral allusion to sin and the human condition, serving as a counterpoint to the wedding scene. The work as a whole thus offers a particularly rich composition, blending a biblical scene, anecdotal details, careful attention to costumes, and symbolic references. A very similar work is housed at the Simeonstift Museum in Trier. Condition: minor flaking of paint. Dimensions of the work: 40 by 54.5 cm. Dimensions with frame: 56 by 71 cm. Frans Francken II, born in Antwerp in 1581 and died in 1642, belonged to an important dynasty of Flemish painters. He is particularly known for his richly detailed compositions filled with numerous figures, and his religious scenes characterized by a meticulous accumulation of details. Reference 893