



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Spanish Man Lying In A Garden / 19th Century / Hst

450 EUR



Signature : G. BANQUET - XIXe siècle

Period : 19th century

Condition : Prévoir restauration

Material : Oil painting

Description

SPANISH WATER SPANIEL LYING IN A GARDEN. BANQUET - 19th century Oil on canvas signed lower right 73 × 100 cm (unframed) on its original canvas and stretcher. A beautiful 19th-century animal painting depicting a black spaniel lying in the foreground, in a garden abounding with flowers. The animal is truly the focal point of the composition. Posed in a calm and attentive manner, it is depicted in three-quarter profile, with its head slightly turned toward the viewer. The artist took particular care to capture the dog's presence and character, notably through the rendering of its gaze, made highly expressive by a few luminous touches in the eyes. The muzzle, the drooping ears, and the various shades of brown and fawn that appear in the coat break up the almost black depth of its fur.

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The rendering of the fur is particularly interesting. The artist does not seek a meticulous, uniform depiction but works with successive brushstrokes, bringing out the volumes through shades of brown, ocher, and black. This approach gives the dog a genuine presence and avoids the overly rigid appearance that animal portraits can sometimes have. In the background, the vegetation is rendered with a much freer brushstroke. Numerous red, white, orange, and bluish flowers stand out against a blue-gray background, creating a particularly pleasing contrast with the dark mass of the spaniel. The long stems and bluish-green foliage provide vertical structure to the background and add depth to the composition. The light-colored ground in the foreground, meanwhile, further highlights the dog's silhouette. The artist thus plays on a highly effective contrast between the animal's dark, deep tones, the luminous blue of the background, and the colorful splashes of the flowers. The work as a whole exemplifies animal painting that goes beyond a mere realistic depiction of a dog: the animal truly becomes the main subject of the composition, while the garden serves as a colorful and luminous setting. The choice of a large horizontal format, 73 × 100 cm, reinforces this impression and gives the work a significant decorative presence. This painting is part of the highly developed 19th-century taste for dog portraits and depictions of pets, which were particularly sought after in bourgeois and aristocratic interiors. The spaniel, both a companion dog and traditionally associated with hunting, occupies an important place in this iconography. The work features an earlier restoration in the central part of the canvas. It is offered unframed and can certainly be displayed and appreciated in its current condition. To make the painting even more attractive and restore more of its original freshness and brilliance, a restoration could be considered, particularly to harmonize the restored section with the rest of the painting. However, this intervention is not

essential for its presentation, and the work can be offered as is. Please feel free to contact me again for any additional information. A more detailed report on the work's condition can be provided upon request.