



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Virgin Of The Rosary. Oil On Canvas. Mexican School. 18th Century



2 300 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Material : Oil painting

Width : 45

Height : 53,5

Description

Dimensions with frame: 53.5 cm high x 45 cm wide
The work depicts the Virgin of the Rosary, accompanied by Saint Dominic de Guzmán and Saint Francis of Assisi, in a composition set against a background of clouds that reinforces the heavenly nature of the scene. The Virgin occupies the center of the composition and turns her gaze toward the saints kneeling at her feet. In her right hand, she holds the rosary which she extends to Saint Dominic, while in her left hand she holds the Infant Jesus. He turns his body to the right and reaches out to hand the rosary to Saint Francis, thus establishing a visual dialogue between the three figures. The presence of Saint Dominic de Guzmán is in keeping with the tradition that the Virgin appeared to him in Toulouse in 1214 and entrusted him with spreading devotion to the

Dealer

Ares Anticuarios

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Rosary. This is why the saints are generally depicted receiving the Rosary from the Virgin's hands. At his side stands Saint Francis of Assisi, whose presence in the scene holds symbolic significance: the joint depiction of the two saints alludes to the union of the two great mendicant orders, the Dominicans and the Franciscans, in the defense, transmission, and practice of the Christian faith. The Virgin appears richly adorned in a blue tunic embroidered with brocade, while various elements of the composition are highlighted by the use of gold leaf. Of particular note are the saints' halos, the Virgin's crown, the rosary, and the numerous stars that radiate around her silhouette--all elements that help emphasize her sacred and heavenly nature. The iconography of the Virgin of the Rosary took on particular significance following the Battle of Lepanto, fought on October 7, 1571 between the fleet of the Holy League and the Ottoman Empire. Before the battle, the Christian troops had commended themselves to the Virgin and had prayed the Rosary; the victory was therefore interpreted as the result of her intercession. Consequently, Pope Pius V instituted the feast of the Virgin of Victories, which was later associated with the title Our Lady of the Rosary by Gregory XIII. Over time, this celebration and devotion spread throughout the Western Church, and October 7 was established as the date of her feast. The devotion to Our Lady of the Rosary spread widely throughout the Spanish territories, and particularly in the Americas. In Peru, this devotion took on particular significance as early as the first years of the viceregal period. Tradition holds that the first image was presented by King Charles V and that in 1643, Viceroy Pedro de Toledo y Leiva proclaimed her the patroness and protector of the Kingdom of Peru. This widespread popularity explains the frequent presence of this iconography in the religious art of the Americas, where the Virgin of the Rosary has become one of the most deeply rooted Marian invocations.