



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Paul Grolleron (1848-1901) Child On Top Of A Wall



3 400 EUR

Signature : Paul Grolleron

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 60 cm hors cadre

Width : 73 cm hors cadre

Description

Paul Louis Narcisse GROLLERON(Seignelay 1848 - Paris 1901)Child on top of a wallOil on canvasH. 60cm ; W. 73cmSigned and dated lower right--1884Paul Grolleron belongs to that generation of French painters who, in the second half of the 19th century, revitalized military painting through a careful and sensitive observation of soldiers' lives. Born in 1848 in Seignelay, in the Yonne department, he trained in Paris under Léon Bonnat, whose teaching emphasized the rigor of drawing and the power of composition.Exhibiting at the Salon beginning in 1873, Grolleron developed a body of work devoted to military painting, history painting, and genre scenes. He found his primary source of inspiration in the conflicts of the 19th century, particularly of 1870-1871.Far from an exclusively

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heroic portrayal of war, the artist focused on everyday moments : marches, rest stops, bivouacs, reconnaissance missions, and scenes of combat. The precision of the uniforms, equipment, and postures lends his compositions a dimension that is both narrative and documentary. His art is distinguished by the strength of his draftsman ship, the accuracy of his detail, and a remarkable mastery of composition. Among his works exhibited at the Salon are notably Episode from 1870, Battle in 1870 beneath the walls of Paris, On High Alert at Buzenval and Episode from the Battle of Loigny. Awarded at the Salon and represented in public and private collections, Grolleron remains a significant figure in French military painting of the Third Republic. His work combines academic rigor, historical accuracy, and a keen sense of composition, lending military episodes a profoundly human dimension. Aside from his usual subjects, this painting stands out as something of an anomaly in Grolleron's career. Indeed, this child, rendered with a very loose touch, leaning against a low wall and wearing a small straw hat, appears to be a personal work. Whereas the painter works with great finesse in his military compositions, here he paints with a bolder brush, using broad strokes and an unusual low-angle perspective.