



PROANTIC

LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Framed "grand Tour" Gouache, Late 18th-early 19th Century



550 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Description

A beautiful framed gouache on paper depicting, allegorically, a woman in classical style (possibly a Bacchante) holding two cymbals and dressed in a delicate drapery. The scene is depicted on a black background, surrounded by a trompe l'oeil-painted mat. Presented in its original leaf-gilded frame. Dimensions: 36.5 x 27.5 cm. (Signs of wear). Unsigned, this gouache may be the work of one of the great Italian miniaturists of the period, including Camillus Paderni or Michelangelo Maestri. Typical of Grand Tour art produced for the aristocracy, this painting is inspired by the wall paintings discovered in Pompeii and Herculaneum as early as 1738 and 1748. To reproduce these complex wall decorations and frescoes, specialized artists (often Italian miniaturists) favored gouache, which

Dealer

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allowed them to capture the brilliance of the original colors and create the necessary effects of light and shadow on moving figures. The use of a neutral background was intended to mimic the black or dark-colored stucco panels often found in Pompeian villas, highlighting the clarity of the figures and the brilliance of the colors. These gouaches were intended for inclusion in connoisseurs' collections. For travelers on the Grand Tour, bringing back such a piece was a mark of elegance: it was proof of their erudition, their taste for antiquity, and their high social status.