



The Education Of The Virgin - Important 18th-century Oval Painting (italian School, Maratti Circle)

1 400 EUR



Period : 18th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Oil painting

Length : 52,5

Width : 43,5

Description

The Education of the Virgin - Important 18th-Century Oval (Italian School, Maratti circle)DescriptionA refined oval-shaped oil painting on canvas (18th century) depicting the iconographic subject of The Education of the Virgin. The work is a significant example of 18th-century Italian domestic religious painting, combining high-quality execution with an atmosphere of intimate and composed devotion.Description and Iconography The scene is dominated by the interaction between the young Virgin Mary and her mother, Saint Anne. Mary is engrossed in reading, pointing with one finger to a page of the sacred text (often interpreted as the prophecies about the Messiah), a gesture that forms the visual and conceptual focal point of the composition. Saint Anne,

Dealer

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wearing an elegant and protective headdress and an earthy-colored cloak, assists her with a loving demeanor, her left hand extended forward in a rhythmic gesture that emphasizes the moment of instruction. The composition fits perfectly within the oval frame, with Saint Anne's embrace following the curve of the canvas, imparting a sense of profound harmony.

Stylistic and Technical Analysis The work displays clear characteristics of mid-18th-century Italian painting, oriented toward an intimate interpretation of the Baroque, with strong influences from 17th-century Classicism (the legacy of Guido Reni and Carlo Maratta) reinterpreted with a more tender and "sentimental" sensibility.

Light: A soft, diffused atmosphere prevails. Gentle light falls diagonally across the Virgin's face and garments and the profile of Saint Anne, leaving the background in a warm, enveloping twilight that enhances the three-dimensionality and the serene expressiveness of the faces.

The Brushwork: A particularly fine detail is the rendering of the drapery. The brushstrokes are bold and swift, effectively defining the volumes and color transitions, such as the contrast between the ochre and the earthy tones of the cloaks. The skin tones are soft and delicately shaded.

Context and Value: The oval format is undoubtedly a commercial and decorative strength. Works of this type were intended for private devotion (domestic oratories or noble bedrooms) or conceived as refined over-door decorations. The painting is in excellent condition, preserving its original patina and chromatic qualities.

Work Details (to be completed with your information):
Period: 18th Century (Eighteenth Century)
Origin: Italy (Maratte School / Emilian-Roman School)
Technique: Oil on canvas
Format: Oval
Condition: original canvas and period patina
Dimensions: 52.5 x 43.5 cm (unframed).