



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Francesco Dal Ponte, Known As Francesco Bassano, From The Workshop Of, Allegory Of Winter

4 600 EUR



Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 105

Height : 67

Description

Francesco Dal Ponte, known as Francesco Bassano (Bassano del Grappa, 1549 - Venice, 1592), workshop of *Allegory of Winter* Oil on panel, 67 x 105 cm - framed, 75.5 x 114.5 cm A farm immersed in the winter chill serves as the backdrop for a scene teeming with everyday peasant life, rendered with the characteristic narrative density that distinguishes the work of the Bassano workshop. On the left, a man is chopping wood with an axe on a log, while next to him a dog has curled up to protect itself from the cold; a donkey laden with bundles of firewood stands beside a young man kneeling; in the background, snow-capped mountains frame a village of thatched-roof huts, animated by small figures engaged in daily tasks, in an atmospheric gradation that opens the composition toward the

Dealer

Ars Antiqua srl

Antiquaire généraliste

Tel : +39 02 29529057

Via C. Pisacane, 55 - 57

Milano 20129

depth of the landscape. On the right, under the eaves of a rustic shelter, a group of figures huddles around a burning hearth, a basket, and a swaddled infant: a detail that, in keeping with a widespread custom in these allegories, evokes the Nativity, superimposing the liturgical calendar onto the cycle of the seasons. Ducks and other farmyard animals complete the naturalistic repertoire characteristic of this body of work. The work belongs to the tradition of the Seasons developed by the Da Ponte workshop, commonly known as Bassano after their hometown, Bassano del Grappa--a designation established by modern-day critics. The Da Ponte workshop was a true family-run enterprise, active for about a century and a half: founded by Francesco the Elder in the early 16th century, it achieved fame throughout northern Italy thanks to Jacopo, beginning in the second half of the 1530s, supported by his brothers Giambattista and Gianfrancesco. After him, his sons Francesco the Younger, Giambattista, Leandro, and Gerolamo carried on his stylistic and artistic legacy. The compositions dedicated to the Seasons are derived from a series conceived by Jacopo Bassano, and their stylistic characteristics suggest they were executed by his school, whose followers worked continuously throughout the 17th century, replicating and varying the compositional schemes of the founder with results of varying quality but always recognizable. The painting examined here belongs to a group of canvases that entered the Borghese Collection at an unknown date, where they are documented as early as 1650 as works by Francesco Bassano. Critics are not, however, unanimous in attributing this and the other "Seasons" solely to Francesco or to his father Jacopo, although the paintings certainly fall within the tradition of biblical-pastoral subjects so dear to the large family workshop. An Allegory of Winter virtually identical to the one presented here was sold at auction in 2021 and is now part of a private collection, attesting to the

popularity among collectors and the widespread appeal of these subjects.