



PROANTIC  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

## A Pair Of Exquisite 17th-century Still Lives. (94 Cm X 120 Cm)

11 500 EUR



Signature : Attr. A Francesco Caldei Detto Francesco Mantovano (1584 - 1676)

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 94

Height : 120

### Description

A pair of still lifes painted in oil on canvas, executed with great skill, depicting gilded vases with sculptural decorations featuring classical-style grotesques and containing lavish floral arrangements. The paintings are attributed to the artist Francesco Caldei, known as Francesco Mantovano (Mantua, 1584 - Venice, 1674). The dimensions of the paintings, including the non-contemporary frames, are 120 x 94 cm. Mantovano was a painter likely of Mantuan origin but trained in Venice, whose body of work was only recently reconstructed in 1998 with the recovery of four of his historically documented works from the storage facilities of the Accademia dei Concordi in Rovigo. From that initial group, a clear picture emerged of a specialist in flower painting--an artist

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characterized by a tendency to repeat his motifs, with a penchant for depicting antique vases adorned with masks and vases decorated with reclining or lying figures. The exact duration of the Mantuan artist's stay in Rome cannot be precisely determined, but it is a fact that must be taken into account given the similarity of his compositions to the repertoire of Mario Nuzzi, known as Mario dei Fiori, and other artists active in Rome. A historical certificate of authenticity is included with the sale.