



PROANTIC

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Great 17th-century Italian Painting: The Banquet Of Mark Antony And Cleopatra.



10 000 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 204

Height : 112

Depth : 7

Description

An antique Italian painting from the 17th century. This oil-on-canvas work depicts a fascinating historical subject: the banquet of Cleopatra and Mark Antony.

The painting is attributable to the Tuscan school of the mid-17th century, with a possible attribution to Domenico Manetti (1609-1664), the son and pupil of Rutilio. The lighting--which makes the figures emerge from the dark background--and the theatrical nature of the composition evoke the naturalist and post-Caravaggesque tradition developed in the family workshop (the painting is

Dealer

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not currently
accompanied by a formal expert appraisal, though
one may be requested
for an additional fee).

The scene recalls the famous wager recounted by
Pliny the Elder:
to astonish Mark Antony and demonstrate her
ability to consume a
fortune in a single banquet, Cleopatra dissolved a
priceless pearl
from her earring in vinegar and then drank the
contents of the cup.

This large-format horizontal painting features a
composition rich
in figures and meticulous detail. Cleopatra
occupies the center of
the scene, dressed in a sumptuous gown and
adorned with jewelry and
an elaborate headdress. The queen offers a cup to
Mark Antony, who is
depicted to her left wearing magnificent armor
and a red cloak.
Surrounding the central figures are
ladies-in-waiting, courtiers,
servants, and musicians; their gestures and
glances animate the
banquet, lending dynamism to the composition.

The depiction of the laden table is particularly
noteworthy: the
light-colored tablecloth, metal tableware, loaves
of bread, and
various dishes form a rich still-life element. The
light draws faces,
hands, and costume details out of the dark
background, while also
highlighting the gleam of the armor. Rich reds,
blues, and greens
lend the scene chromatic balance and a striking
decorative presence.

The painting is set in a 20th-century lacquered

wood frame--showing
some signs of age--that enhances the
composition's colors and depth.
Measuring over two meters in width, the painting
is ideal for a large
wall in a living room, dining room, or executive
study. It is a work
capable of adding character to a classic interior
while creating a
compelling dialogue with contemporary
furnishings.

The painting has undergone restoration, including
relining,
replacement of the stretcher, and minor color
touch-ups. Overall, it
is in good condition.

Internal dimensions: H 88, W 180 cm

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