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Italian Painting Signed By Focosi And Dated 1852, *moses Breaking The Tablets Of The Law*



6 000 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 83

Height : 96

Depth : 11

Description

An important 19th-century Lombard painting. This oil-on-canvas work is signed "Focosi" at the bottom right and dated 1852; it is attributable to the renowned Milanese artist Roberto Focosi (1806-1862). It is a painting of exceptional artistic quality depicting a compelling biblical scene: Moses on the verge of shattering the Tablets of the Law.

Moses dominates the foreground with a vigorous twist of his body as he raises the stone tablets, caught in the moment just before the act. His face, framed by a thick dark beard,

Dealer

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expresses indignation at the sight of the Israelite people worshipping the Golden Calf, which is visible in the background. Beside the central figure stands a second person holding a long staff--likely identifiable as Joshua. His light-colored robe draws the eye to the prophet, while a cloak in shades of ochre and brown, along with a green and red sash, enriches the composition's chromatic balance.

Roberto Focosi (1806-1862) trained at the Brera Academy and was a distinguished draftsman and lithographer, highly active in depicting historical subjects. He achieved great success reproducing works by the era's leading painters, and his illustrations remain valuable historical records today. He was the father of Alessandro Focosi, another major figure on the Milanese art scene and a pupil of Francesco Hayez.

The painting is presented in an ornate, non-original gilded frame--decorated with scrolls and foliate motifs--that enhances its dramatic presence. While beautifully decorative, the frame shows some abrasions and minor losses (see photos).

A work of great character--ideal for a living room, study, or library--capable of enriching a classical interior or creating an elegant contrast with contemporary furnishings. The work has already undergone restoration, including relining and replacement of the stretcher. There are minor paint losses in the

lower section of the
canvas (see photos); overall, it is in good
condition.

Internal dimensions: H 72 x W 58 cm

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