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Alpine Landscape With A Fortress And Travelers - Attributed To Antonio Cioci (mid-18th Century)

1 700 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : En l'etat



Description

Alpine Landscape with a Fortress and Travelers -
Attributed to Antonio Cioci (Mid-18th
century)Period: 18th centurySchool: Piedmontese
School / Alpine Landscape PaintingTechnique:
Oil on canvasCondition: Excellent overall
condition, period patinaCanvas dimensions: 28.5
x 36.5 cmDimensions with frame: 39 x 47.5
cmDescription of the workA fascinating
collector's painting, executed in oil on canvas,
depicting an imposing and evocative mountain
landscape; the work is attributable to the golden
age of 18th-century Piedmontese landscape
painting.Given its compositional rigor, its color
palette, and its painterly technique, this work is
closely associated with the documented body of
work by the painter Antonio Ciocio (active in
Piedmont in the 18th century), known for his

Dealer

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atmospheric Alpine vistas and feudal-style architecture. **The Subject and Composition** The scene, with its highly picturesque character, is masterfully constructed around a play of light contrasts. On the right: an imposing, ruined medieval watchtower--an architectural element emblematic of Alpine passes and fortified valleys (such as the Susa Valley)--stands as a dark backdrop. In the foreground: along a shaded path, several figures come to life-- "little figures" (travelers or shepherds)--rendered with vivid and refined strokes of lead white (biacca), which highlight the loads they carry and their clothing. In the background: the viewer's gaze is drawn toward a rocky and rugged landscape, dominated by massive, geometrically shaped mountains, bathed in a silvery, stormy light filtering through the cloudy sky. On the left, a reflection on the water suggests the presence of a lake or stream at the bottom of the valley. **Style and Technique** The painting is distinguished by rapid brushstrokes--the so-called "touch painting" style--which are extremely modern, generous, and vibrant in texture. The palette, based on warm earth tones, browns, and pitch-black hues, suddenly comes alive in the contrasts of the background. This style reflects the influence exerted in northern Italy by Alessandro Magnasco and Marco Ricci, serving as a perfect bridge between the Baroque landscape and the early pre-Romantic sensibilities linked to the concept of the "sublime." **Condition and Frame** The work is in good overall condition, having retained its splendid original patina, which lends it all the charm of the era. The paint layer is perfectly stable. The painting is enhanced by a magnificent antique box frame in stained wood (contemporary or from a slightly later period), which perfectly highlights the warm hues and the depth of perspective in the composition.