Face Of The Christ Child (or Salvator Mundi As A Child)



6 000 EUR

Signature : Cercle intime de Bernardino Luini.

Period : 16th century

Condition : En l'etat

Description

Face of the Christ Child (or Salvator Mundi as a Child)Cultural context: Lombard painting in the style of Leonardo / Close circle or follower of Bernardino LuiniPeriod: 16th century (Cinquecento)Technique: Oil on panelDimensions:Panel: 32.5 × 24 cmWith frame: 50 × 42.5 cmFrame: Contemporary carved wood gilded with gold leaf, featuring a typical 16th-century grooved panel.Provenance: Private collection, Lombardy.Description of the workThis exquisite painting on panel depicts the Child Redeemer, a subject of intense private devotion that draws on the iconographic and stylistic conventions of the influential Leonardo tradition active in Lombardy during the early 16th century, with a particularly strong reference to the circle of Bernardino Luini.The child is depicted

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in a half-length portrait, gazing gently toward the viewer in an attitude of quiet contemplation. The face is rendered with extreme delicacy thanks to a skillful use of sfumato--clearly derived from da Vinci--which softens the chiaroscuro transitions, lending the complexion a warm and vibrant luminosity. The blond and brown curls, meticulously rendered strand by strand, frame pure and idealized features--a stylistic hallmark of Luini's sacred portraiture.The compositional arrangement, the psychological rendering suspended between earthly grace and divine mystery, and the color palette played out in soft tones all attest to the work's high level of craftsmanship. The painting fits seamlessly into the vibrant cultural climate of the workshops active between Milan and the Canton of Ticino, which were capable of reinterpreting Leonardo's legacy with touches of refined and intimate piety.ConditionThe work is in good overall condition.The wooden panel is stable. On the reverse side, there are initials in dark ink or varnish ("D.T." and inventory or antique auction catalog numbers, such as "5.12") and holes from long-ago, now-dormant woodworm infestation, which confirm the authenticity and antiquity of the support.The paint layer is generally in excellent condition, with minimal and localized conservative restoration work visible under Wood's light.The period gilded wooden frame retains its original period charm.