Bacchante Or Young Bacchus - Oil On Canvas - Late 18th Century



1 100 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 37,5 cm, 48 cm encadrée

Height : 45,5 cm, 56 cm encadrée

Description

French School, late 18th centuryBacchante or Young BacchusOil on canvasUnsignedDimensions: 45.5 x 37.5 cm; 56 x 48 cm with frameCondition: no missing areas; numerous cracks; canvas slightly slack; on its original stretcherModern black frame with wavy moldings, in the 17th-century styleProvenance: private collection, Hérault (France)A Bacchante, or Bacchus himself? The painter leaves it open to interpretation, and that's just as well. The face is young, smooth, and somewhat androgynous: it could be that of a companion of the god of wine or that of the adolescent god himself. The attributes are the same for both: a wreath of black grapes and vine leaves in the hair, a leopard skin draped over the shoulder.But one's gaze is drawn neither to the wreath nor the fur at first. One

Dealer

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looks at the eyes. Her head is tilted, almost resting on her shoulder, and her gaze is directed to the side, from below. It immediately captures your attention and never lets go. Her mouth is slightly parted, with the hint of a smile. The expression is hard to define: mocking, knowing, perhaps a little tipsy. It changes depending on the time of day and the light, and that is the whole point of the painting.The framing is very tight, with no background. All the light falls on the face--clear and rosy--which stands out against an almost black background. The rest is painted more freely: the brown curls, the grapes rendered with a few brilliant brushstrokes, and above all the spotted fur, painted with broad, sweeping strokes and a genuine thickness of paint.The artist remains unknown. The canvas is unsigned. The quality of the face and the ease of the brushwork certainly indicate a professional painter.The painting comes from a private collection, where it adorned a beautiful residence in the Hérault department.ConditionThe paint layer is complete, with no missing areas. It exhibits numerous cracks, clearly visible in the photos, which are normal for a painting of this age. The canvas is slightly slack. It has not been re-stretched and remains on its original stretcher, which has become rare.The frame is modern. Black, with wavy moldings, it is based on a 17th-century Dutch model and complements the painting's dark background very well.Work on view at the gallery (07240)Shipping: Please contact us for shipping costs within France and internationally.