19th Century, Raphael And La Fornarina In The Studio



1 200 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 22

Height : 19,5

Description

19th centuryRaphael and La Fornarina in the StudioOil on canvas, 19.5 x 22 cm - with frame, 26 x 29 cmThe painting exudes the intimate atmosphere of a painter's studio: Raphael, seated on a stool with his legs stretched out and his gaze turned upward in an almost ecstatic gesture, holds brushes and a palette in his hand, captured in the moment of artistic creation. Standing beside him, La Fornarina watches him with an affectionate and engaged expression, draped in a gown of warm red and ochre tones that contrasts with the artist's dark attire. In the foreground, a large easel with the canvas in progress is visible, and at the window, a soft light gently illuminates the scene, in keeping with the nineteenth-century painterly taste for studio interiors rich in narrative suggestion. The composition, simple yet

Dealer

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well-constructed, emphasizes the relationship between the two figures rather than the technical depiction of the act of painting, suggesting a moment of intimacy and shared inspiration.The subject depicted here, though ideally set in the sixteenth century, actually belongs to an iconography that enjoyed immense popularity in the nineteenth century, when Romantic culture rediscovered and reinvented the figure of Raphael not only as the supreme master of Renaissance painting but also as the protagonist of a romantic tale brimming with charm. Numerous artists of the time took on this theme, each with their own variations: among them Felice Schiavoni, Ingres, Giuseppe Sogni, and Francesco Gandolfi, who were able to combine their admiration for the genius from Urbino with a more or less idealized and sentimental interpretation of his relationship with his beloved.At the heart of this iconographic legacy lies the alleged love story between Raphael and La Fornarina, traditionally identified as Margherita Luti, the daughter of a Roman baker. This story is largely shrouded in legend, fueled above all by nineteenth-century Romantic sensibilities, which were always keen to discern traits of passion and humanity in the great artists of the past. The only element that has sustained this tradition over the centuries is a pictorial detail: in the famous portrait of La Fornarina now housed at the Galleria Borghese, the woman wears a bracelet engraved with the painter's name. From this small but significant detail, an entire romantic mythology has developed, one capable of inspiring the artistic output of an entire century, eager to transform the lives of the old masters into tales of ideal and romantic beauty.The adherence to the classical topos of hunting and fishing scenes, allegories of aristocratic pastimes and the contemplative life in the villa.