



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Vassallo Anton Maria



17 000 EUR

Signature : Vassallo Anton Maria

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 112

Width : 105

Description

The life and career of Antonio Maria Vassallo are documented from the Genoese biographer Raffaele Soprani. It is assumed that he was born in Genoa around 1620, although some suggest an earlier date of 1610. According to Soprani, Vassallo came from a prosperous family of silk merchants. Although he was encouraged to continue his studies, Vassallo persuaded his father to allow him to start a career as a painter. His first teacher was Vincenzo Malò (c. 1605-1650), a Flemish artist who had studied with David Teniers the elder (1582-1649) and Pieter Paul Rubens (1577-1640). Malò arrived in Genoa around 1634 and remained there until the mid-1640s. From Malò, Vassallo quickly learned the rudiments of drawing and painting.

Dealer

Galerie Meier

XVIè-XXème siècle

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Vassallo studied the works of his compatriots Sinibaldo Scorza (1589-1631) and Giovanni Benedetto Castiglione (1609-1664), whose respective studios he probably studied in. Scorza was in Genoa from 1627 to 1631, while Castiglione was in Genoa from 1650 and did not leave for Rome until 1632. Under the influence of De Scorza and Castiglione, as well as his teacher Malò, Vassallo would have learned to excel in realistic detail by combining animal and figure representations in his works.

Vassallo continued to receive important public commissions until the end of his career, such as the Martyrdom of Saint Marcello Mastrilli for the Convento di Carignano (now in a private collection). Soprani also mentioned that Vassallo painted a large number of portraits.

In addition to mythological and pastoral scenes, he also painted a growing number of still lifes throughout his career.

The circumstances of Vassallo's premature death are not really known. According to Soprani, the seriously ill artist was encouraged to go to Milan for its beneficial climate. He died there between 1664 and 1673 without having any descendants. He had no known pupils to whom to pass on his artistic legacy. The closest heir to Vassallo's style is Giovanni Agostino Cassana (c.1658-1720); many of his still lifes repeat the same subjects and motifs of his master.