

SA1191065

Nicolas Victor Fonville, Landscape With Cottage, Lake & Figures - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1191065****Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 59 cm (23.2")

Width = 76 cm (29.9")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This finely balanced early 19th-century landscape painting by French painter, Nicolas Victor Fonville (1805-1856), depicts a rural cottage set gently within a wooded clearing, its thatched roof emerging from a copse of trees beside a winding path. Beyond, the land opens toward water and distant buildings, with low mountains rising softly on the horizon. It's a composition, exquisite in nature, that requires deeper sustained looking. Every element here is individually studied - the cottage settled into the land rather than imposed upon it; the foreground boulders carefully weighted and articulated; the figures quietly present, scaled to their surroundings. The foreground shadows are carefully constructed to anchor the scene without heaviness, while the trees form a natural architecture that frames the landscape beyond. The clouds are particularly masterful, layered and structurally sound, guiding light and atmosphere without resorting to Romantic drama. The entire surface rewards close inspection, almost in the manner of a miniature, where nothing is incidental. This painting speaks of an artist committed to plain air not for the pursuit of fleeting effects, but for und...

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