

SA1200959

Mid-18th-Century Central Italian School, Architectural Capriccio With Daniel In The Lions' Den - Antique Tempera on Canvas

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1200959****Date of manufacture: 1750**

Dimensions

Height = 95 cm (37.4")

Width = 153 cm (60.2")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This refined mid-18th-century Italian architectural capriccio depicts a solitary figure kneeling among lions within a monumental ruin. It's a vision of steadfast faith painted with quiet intellect. The scene recalls the biblical story of Daniel, the Hebrew exile who refused to renounce his God under the rule of King Darius. Condemned to death for his faith, he was cast into a den of lions - yet, miraculously, the beasts did not harm him. At dawn, when the king came in sorrow to see what remained, he found Daniel alive and at peace, his courage unbroken. Here, the artist translates that story into an architectural allegory of endurance. The vast arches and stairs rise like emblems of empire - yet Daniel kneels at their heart, a small, luminous presence amid stone and shadow. The lions, rather subdued and contemplative, appear tamed by something unseen. Light falls from above, in recognition. Painted in tempera on canvas, the surface has the matte luminosity of fresco - a hallmark of Central Italian decorative practice, especially among the Bolognese and Florentine painters trained in perspective and illusion. The measured draughtsmanship and restrained palette speak of...

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Seller Details

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