

18TH C. FRENCH ROCOCO OIL ON CANVAS PAINTING OF SAINT CECILIA IN GILTWOOD FRAME

$8,900

SKU: 01-104
Stock: N/A
Categories: New Arrivals, Paintings

This large and refined antique French oil on canvas dates to the 18th century, circa 1750, and is executed in the Rococo tradition. The elegant composition is traditionally identified as Saint Cecilia, patron saint of music, seated before a keyboard instrument with her hands poised gracefully on the keys while attended by three surrounding figures. Long associated with music, devotion, and artistic inspiration, Saint Cecilia is portrayed here with an upward gaze and serene expression, lending the scene both symbolic depth and lyrical beauty.

The figures are rendered with soft modeling and graceful movement, dressed in flowing garments of rose, sage green, cream, and muted blue accented with delicate lace details and luminous highlights. The composition reflects the romantic and theatrical sensibility of mid-18th century French painting and recalls the decorative elegance associated with the circle of François Boucher and Jean-Baptiste Pater. The atmospheric background and warm palette further enhance the dreamlike quality of the work.

The painting is housed in an elaborate carved giltwood frame decorated with scrolling foliage, floral motifs, and shell ornamentation characteristic of the Louis XV Rococo aesthetic. The richly gilded surface retains a beautiful time-softened patina that complements the tones of the canvas beautifully.

The antique painting is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, with stable canvas, fine age craquelure, and a well-preserved painted surface. A striking focal point for a salon, music room, or formal dining room, the work pairs beautifully with Louis XV and other classical interiors.

Dimensions: 45"W x 55"H

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