

18TH CENTURY FRENCH AUBUSSON PASTORAL TAPESTRY ATTRIBUTED TO JEAN BAPTISTE HUET

$16,000

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Bring a touch of romance and history into your home with this large antique Aubusson tapestry. Woven in France circa 1780, the work is based on a cartoon attributed to Jean-Baptiste Huet (French, 1745–1811), one of the leading Rococo painters and designers of his era, celebrated for his pastoral scenes and animal studies. Huet was closely associated with the Manufacture de Beauvais and the Gobelins Manufactory, where his designs became prized for their lively compositions and refined color palettes. This exceptional example captures one of Huet's favorite themes: an idyllic courtship scene with a gentleman offering affection to a seated lady beneath a sweeping tree, her loyal dog at her side, with a distant village beyond. A scrolling floral and foliate border in shades of rose, cream, and pale blue frames the scene. Standing over nine feet tall, the tapestry's soft palette has mellowed beautifully over time, enhancing its romantic and painterly quality. Aubusson, located on the River Creuse, was granted the title of "Royal Manufacturer" in 1665 and produced commissions for Louis XV, Louis XVI, and Napoleon I. Today, pieces like this are sought after for their artistry and historical significance. In excellent condition commensurate with age and use, with minor repairs and wear consistent with its 18th-century origins; recently backed for stability. A spectacular wall piece for a grand living room, library, or gallery space. Measures: 93.5" W x 111" H

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