



19TH CENTURY BELGIAN GENRE OIL PAINTING BY ALEX DE ANDREIS IN GILTWOOD FRAME

\$3,950

SKU: 261-415

Stock: N/A

Categories: [New Arrivals](#), [Paintings](#)

Brimming with personality and narrative charm, this antique genre painting is an original oil on canvas by listed Belgian artist Alexandre “Alex” de Andreis (1871-1939). Painted circa 1895, the engaging interior scene portrays a jovial bearded gentleman seated beside a table, leaning forward with an infectious smile while holding a smoking pipe in one hand. A glass and clear carafe placed on the table beside him reinforce the relaxed, convivial character of the scene.

The sitter is rendered with remarkable expression and individuality, from his animated face and unruly hair to the soft folds of his brown jacket, waistcoat, and trousers. De Andreis employs a restrained palette of warm browns, muted greens, gray and cream tones, allowing the illuminated figure to emerge dramatically from the darker interior. Fine modeling of the face and hands contrasts with broader passages of visible brushwork throughout the background. The painting is signed “De Andreis” at the lower left corner.

Alexandre “Alex” de Andreis was a Belgian painter specializing in genre and military subjects and is listed in Bénézit. He became particularly known for colorful historical characters, soldiers, cavaliers and lively interior scenes, often portraying his figures with a strong sense of theatricality and individual personality. The Bénézit reference accompanying this painting records periods connected with the Swedish court, French military service and travels associated with Morocco and Spain. His compositions range from rapidly observed military subjects to more highly finished character studies such as the present work.

Published auction records demonstrate continued interest in De Andreis’ paintings, particularly his distinctive portraits of cavaliers and other historicized figures. Modern auction cataloguing, including Christie’s, identifies an Alex de Andreis as a Belgian artist active in this same genre, although published sources differ regarding the artist’s precise birth and death dates. For that reason, no definitive life dates are assigned here.

The large painting remains housed in an impressive period carved giltwood frame decorated with repeating incised lattice motifs, molded borders and carved floral ornament at each corner. The mellow gilding and naturally aged patina complement the warm tonal qualities of the canvas beautifully. A Bénézit biographical and auction-reference label for the artist is retained on the reverse.



frame.

Dimensions: 32" W x 40" H