



19TH CENTURY FRENCH NAPOLEONIC OIL PAINTING AFTER DAVID, SIGNED POMMIER

\$5,900

SKU: 251-171

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Commanding in both subject and presentation, this antique French oil on canvas depicts Napoleon Bonaparte mounted on a powerful rearing horse before a shadowed formation of troops and a dramatic mountainous landscape. Crafted in France circa 1830, the composition reflects the heroic equestrian imagery popularized by Jacques-Louis David and the enduring fascination with Napoleon during the decades following the Empire.

Napoleon is shown in full military dress wearing his iconic bicorne hat, dark blue uniform with gilt trim, white breeches, tall riding boots, and a red-and-white sash tied at the waist. His richly appointed saddle and tack are carefully rendered, while the dark saddle cloth bears the initials "R.F." for République Française beneath a radiating emblem. Mounted soldiers emerge from the darker background, reinforcing the military narrative and creating strong visual depth behind the central figure.

The painting is signed "Pommier" in the lower left and is attributed to Émile-Louis Pommier, a 19th-century French painter associated with military and historical subjects. Working during a period when Napoleonic imagery remained deeply embedded in the French cultural imagination, Pommier's work reflects the Romantic taste for heroic equestrian portraiture, dramatic movement, and carefully observed military detail. This composition is particularly effective in the contrast between the illuminated horse and rider and the darker troops gathered behind them.

The pale horse, shown with raised forelegs and windswept mane, gives the composition a theatrical sense of motion, while the restrained palette of warm gold, brown, charcoal, and muted blue creates an appropriately martial atmosphere. The artist's attention to the uniform, sword, saddle appointments, and insignia adds decorative richness to the scene without detracting from Napoleon's commanding presence.

The canvas is presented in a handsome carved giltwood frame decorated with foliate molding and a finely detailed beaded inner border. The warm, aged gilding complements the subdued palette of the painting and enhances its strong 19th-century character.

A striking example of French Napoleonic military and equestrian painting, the work would make an impressive focal point in a library, study, office, entry hall, or collection devoted to French history, military art, or Empire-period decoration. The painting is in excellent condition, with no visible damage, and is presented with the original mounting hardware.



evidence of historic restoration visible on the reverse.

Dimensions: 32.25" W x 38.75" H