

19TH CENTURY GERMAN GENRE OIL PAINTING OF MUSICAL MONKS BY J. BERNSTEIN

$5,975

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This engaging antique genre painting was created in Germany circa 1880 and depicts three monks gathered for an intimate musical recital. Painted in oil on canvas, the composition centers on a lively trio: one monk plays the violin, another the cello, and a third stands behind them playing the flute. Their expressive faces and relaxed postures give the scene warmth, humor, and an appealing sense of everyday life.

A red-draped table set with sheet music anchors the composition, while books, a mantel clock, and the dark paneled interior enrich the background with carefully observed detail. The contrast between the white monastic robes, deep red textile, and warm brown interior creates a strong and balanced palette.

The painting is signed “J. Bernstein” in the lower right corner. Although little biographical information appears to be firmly documented about the artist, works signed by Bernstein are known on the art market, particularly narrative genre scenes with monastic and domestic subjects.

The canvas is presented in an impressive period giltwood frame, deeply carved with scrolling acanthus leaves and classical ornament in high relief. Both painting and frame are in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, with light surface wear and patina consistent with a 19th-century work.

Dimensions: 36" W x 32" H.

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