



THE ANNUNCIATION

Code: **W08_2025**

Artist: **Pompeo Batoni (Lucca 1708–Rome 1787)**

Date: **c. 1724**

Dimensions: **228 x 170 cm**

Materials: **Oil on canvas enclosed within gilded stucco frames**

Trained by some of the finest masters of his time, Pompeo Batoni's work is a rich blend of classicism and baroque influences. His expertise in portraiture and his ability to evoke deep emotions earned him commissions from various European courts, making him one of the most sought-after artists of the 18th century. Influenced by Correggio's softness, the painting depicts the Archangel Gabriel announcing to the Virgin Mary that she will conceive Jesus. Mary's serene and humble expression, Gabriel's dynamic pose, and symbolic elements such as the lily and the book emphasize the divine encounter. Batoni's use of light and color enhances the ethereal quality of the scene, making *The Annunciation* a remarkable example of 18th century Italian religious art.

State of Preservation

The surface exhibits alterations caused by oxidized varnishes, overpainting, and atmospheric deposits. Water infiltration and runoff have caused localized cohesion and adhesion problems in the paint layers. There are small tears in the textile support resulting from accidental bumps and impacts.

Restoration Procedures

- Removal of surface deposits and altered protective layers using mechanical and chemical methods
- Review of the relining
- Pre-consolidation and consolidation of detached portions
- Cleaning tests and surface cleaning
- Filling gaps with plaster and adhesive
- Pictorial reintegration with reversible colors and recognizable techniques (watercolor or varnish)
- Frame review and tension adjustment

Total Cost: **€ 9.315,00**

\$ 9,581.41