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Details

The painting "Military Joy" offers a poignant testimonial into a moment in history, capturing the spirit of celebration and camaraderie among soldiers of the Kingdom of Croatia-Slavonia in 1914, at the onset of World War I. The scene depicts a festive regiment, likely marking the beginning of their wartime journey. The soldiers, adorned in their blue regimental uniforms, are portrayed engaging in a celebration, perhaps in honor of the ideals they fight for and the alliances they uphold. The figures, particularly those highlighted by the painter, evoke a sense of pride and determination, with some playing music, possibly part of a brass band, adding to the atmosphere of festivity.

Yet, amidst the jubilation, there is a poignant contrast between the individual soldiers and the anonymous crowd blurred in the background. This contrast underscores the personal sacrifices and the collective experience of war. It prompts reflection on the complexities of history, where each side's narrative is composed of individual stories, each with its heroism, tragedies, and sacrifices. The painting captures the paradox of war—a clash of ideals, courage, and human vulnerability.

The absence of the painter's name adds to the mystique of the artwork, leaving room for speculation about the artist behind this evocative portrayal of wartime celebration. With his intense gaze, the flutist's central figure becomes a focal point of a sum of interrogations. His expression, seemingly a blend of determination and apprehension, invites viewers to reflect on the uncertainties and fears faced by those who go to war. It is a haunting reminder of the human cost of conflict, where bravery and mortality intersect on the battlefield.





PERIOD: Early 20th Century CONDITION: Excellent

MEASUREMENTS: Height: 26.75" Width: 40" Depth: 3"

COUNT: 1 MATERIAL: Oil