Russian Orthodox Icon of Coronation of the Holy Virgin, circa XVIII C.

In wood, pigment paints, and matte lacquer. Measures 36 cm x 32 cm (14 ¼" x 12 ¼"), weighs 4 lbs 11 oz. The icon depicts the Holy Trinity (Jesus Christ, God the Father, and the Holy Spirit symbolized by the white dove) and the Theotokos (the Holy Virgin) in front of the Cross. The lower plane presents celestial forces, including an archangel and cherubim. The main act is in the center, where the Son and the Father are placing a crown on the head of the Theotokos.

Traditional iconography would instead depict the Dormition of Theotokos showing the Virgin Mary at the moment of her death and assumption into heaven. This icon's deviation from the canonic interpretation is a good example of how this theme of iconography was evolving in XVIII C. Its style has much in common with the Western European tradition, not only in iconography but its details as well, e.g. rich patterned clothing and vivid gestures that are not necessarily canonical. These changes are characteristic of the influence of the western tradition on Russian Orthodox iconography that occurred in the 18th-century Russia. The Coronation icon's apocryphal nature allows for more freedom in its depiction, which has contributed to its popularity in home iconostases. The icon is believed to serve as a protector of family life and to have curative powers for those struggling with alcoholism or infertility.

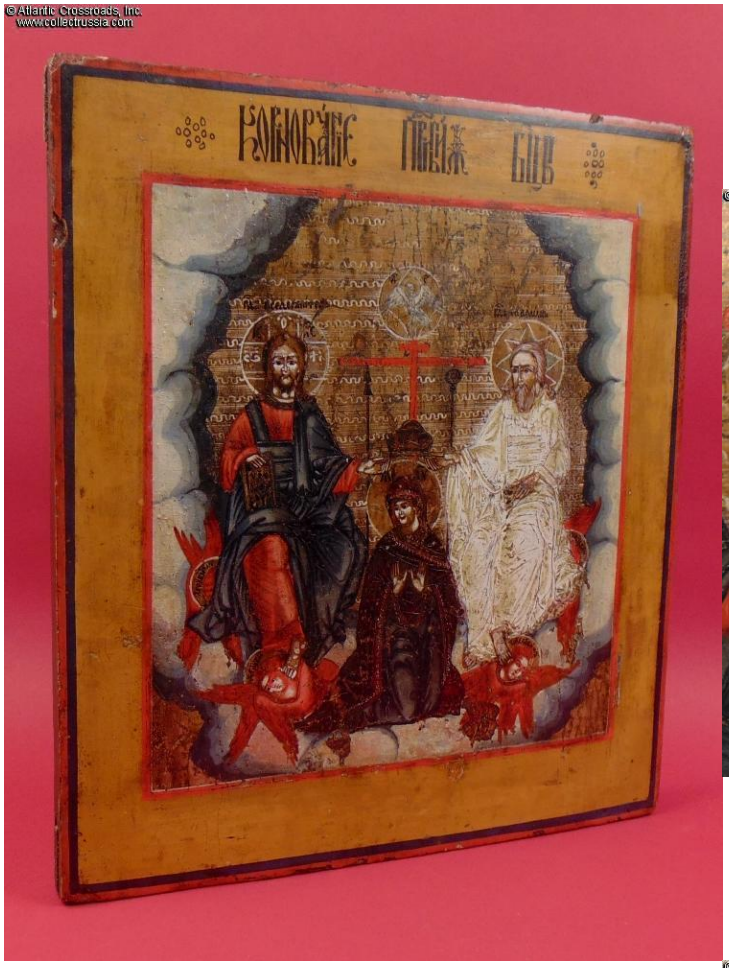
Despite some minor chipping at the edges and corners and barely noticeable small scratches, the icon is in very good condition. The woodworms that made a few holes visible on the reverse are long gone. The paint layer is wonderfully preserved, the inscription in Church Slavonic is clear and legible.

The apocryphal features of the icon make it a remarkable example of that period.

Please note that the pen in our photos is for size reference.

Item# 39906

$1,900.00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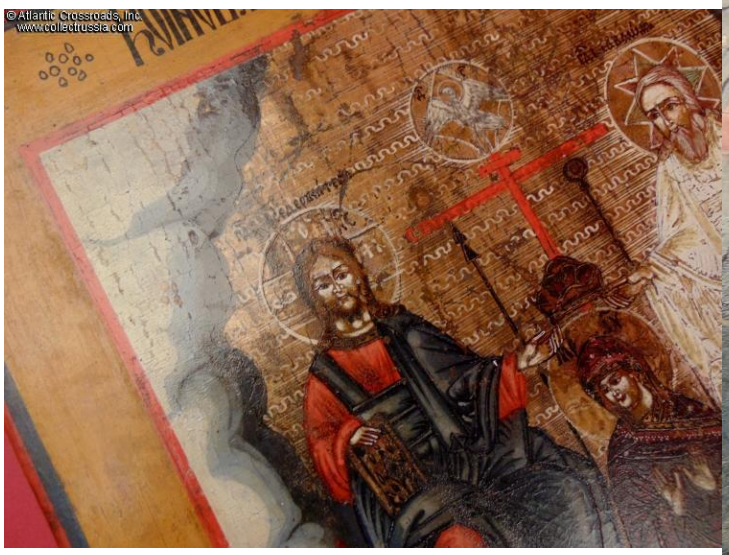
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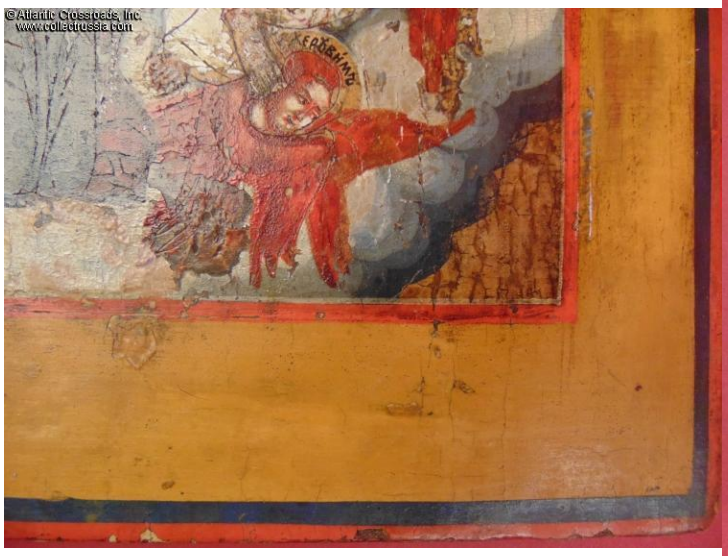
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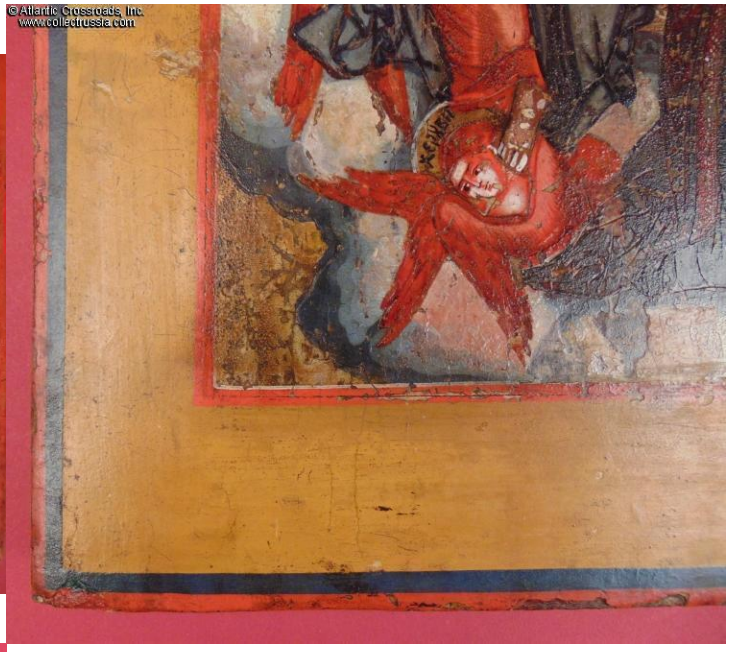
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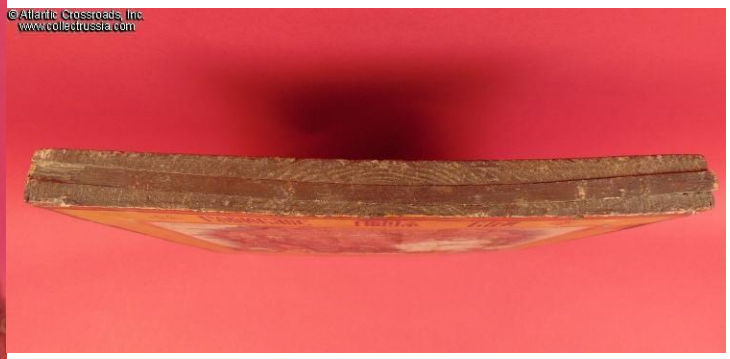
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