

Portrait of Stalin, original, artist signed and dated, 1949.

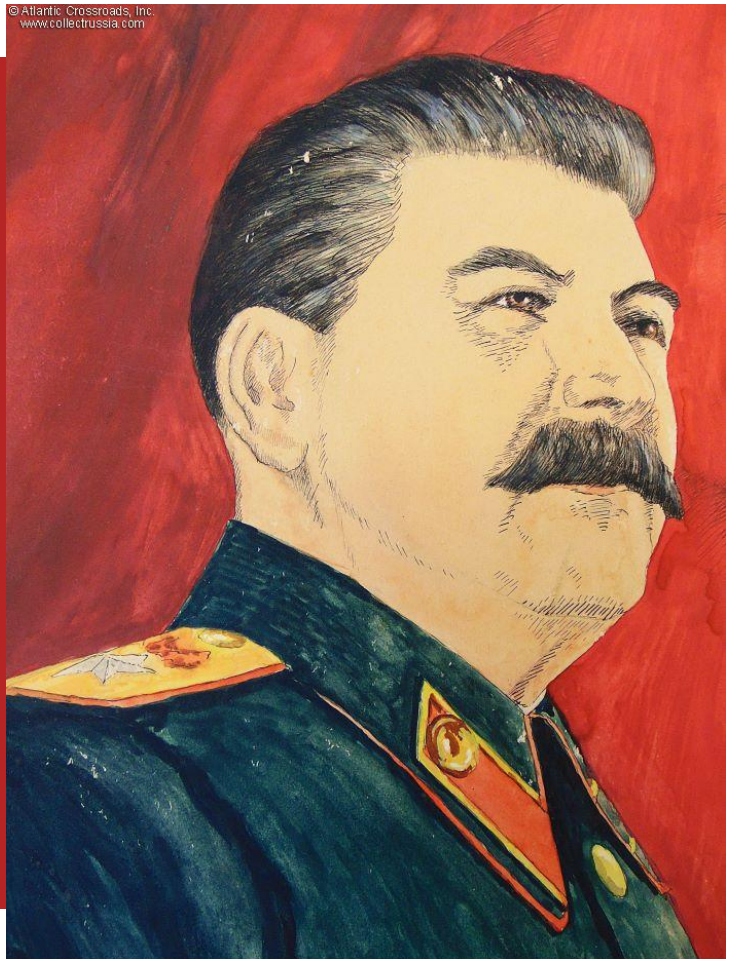
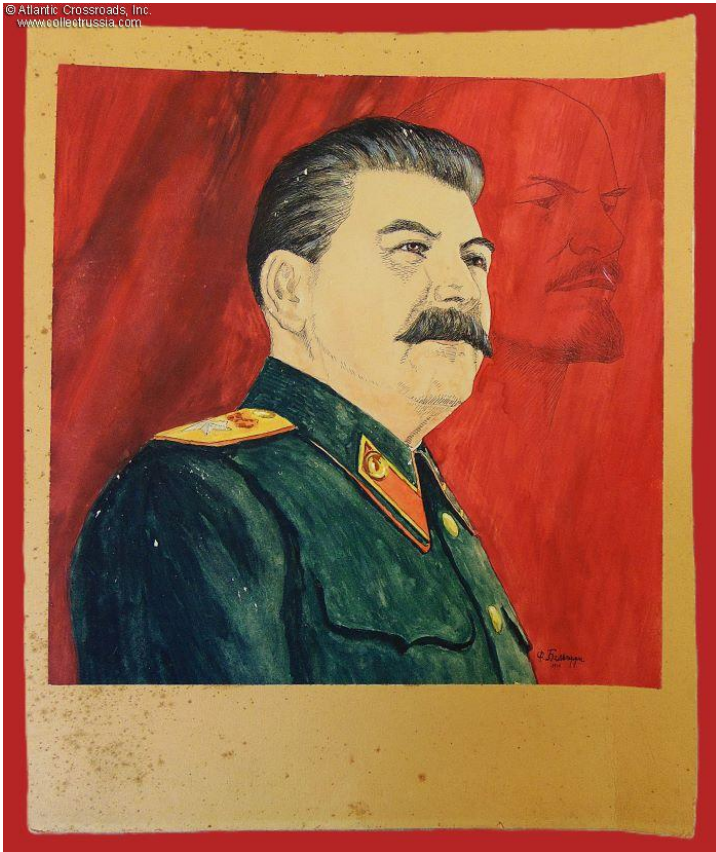
In gouache and ink on paper, measures approx. 15" x 15", mounted on a cardboard backing, total size 16 3/4" x 20 1/4". The artist's hand signature, F. Baltrush, and year are handwritten in the lower right-hand corner of the painting. The artwork was created to celebrate Stalin's 70th birthday, the anniversary that gave birth to hundreds of thousands, if not millions, images of the Great Leader and Friend of All Nations in all imaginable and unimaginable media by professional or, as this case seems to be, amateur artists. Giving F. Baltrush credit for originality, he depicted Stalin next to a contour of Lenin's face looking out through the blood-red color of the background banner. You can find it sinister or inspiring, depending on the ideals you believe in, but Mr. Baltrush succeeded in following all the canons of the day: he did not forget Lenin and the revolution, but emphasized Stalin making him the focus of the painting.

In very good condition, showing just a few small spots of paint loss on Stalin's shoulder and in his hair. The cardboard of the backing shows some foxing, mostly in the lower left-hand corner. Framing the painting will take care of this issue, concealing the spots.

Please note that the 1-ft. ruler in our photo is for size reference.

Item# 45176

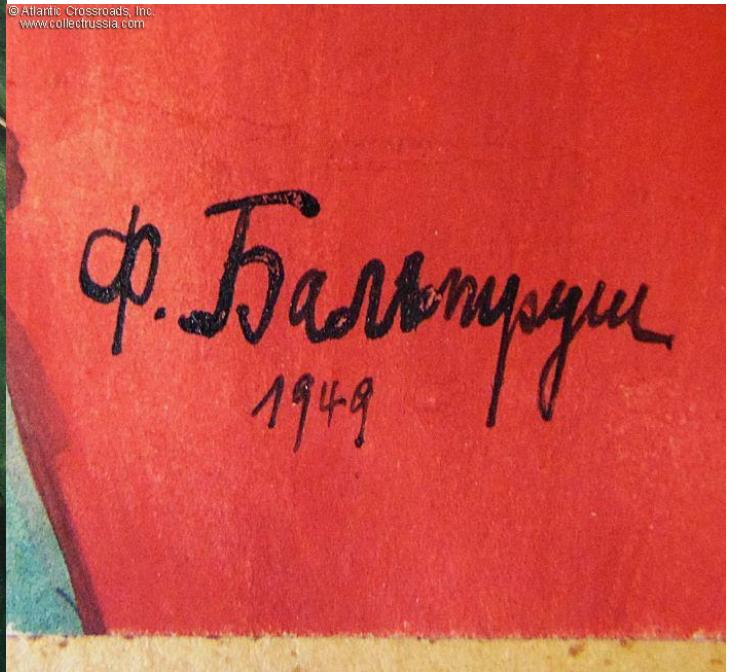
\$320.00



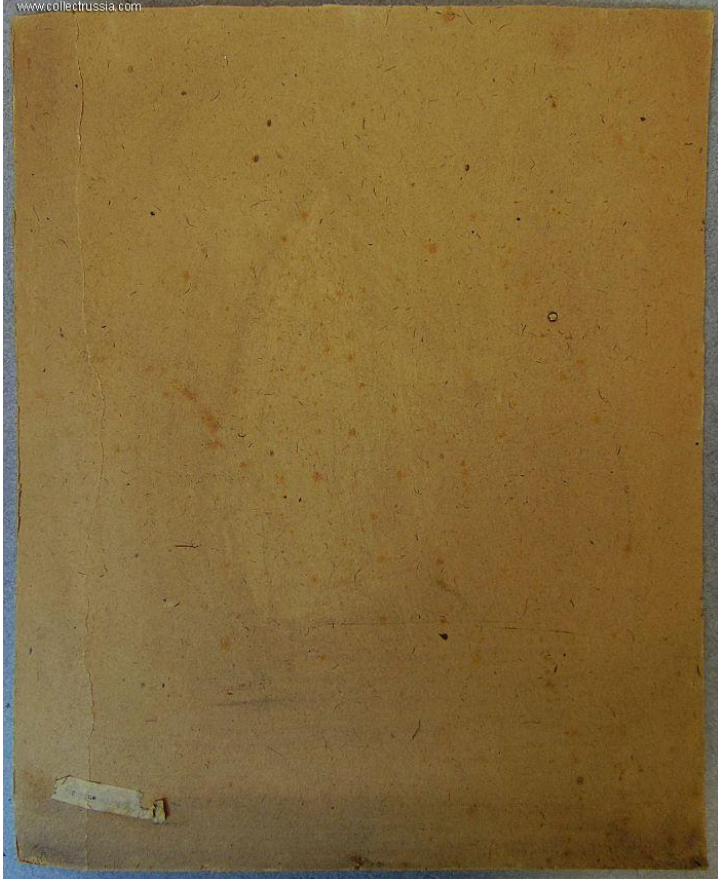
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