



LULLO | PAMPOULIDES



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GIOVANNI COSTETTI  
1874 - 1949

*PORTRAIT OF ANTONIO SCONTRINO (RECTO), SKETCH OF AN OLD MAN (VERSO)*  
1906

Pen and ink (recto), pencil (verso), signed and dated in pen (top)  
30 x 19 cm

Giovanni Costetti was born in Reggio Emilia in 1874. After his early studies in Bologna and Reggio Emilia, he chose Tuscany as his second home, while in the 1930s and 1940s he lived mainly in the Netherlands and other European countries.

After returning from his Parisian experience, he settled in Florence with fellow painters Ardengo Soffici, Umberto Brunelleschi and Gino Melis, taking an active part in the city's cultural life. After a period of notable successes, which culminated in the early years in Florence, with the consecration of Gabriele d'Annunzio, he broke away from the group and also from the life of the city. Thus, in 1914, a close collaboration with Renato Fondi's Pistoiese magazine *La Tempra* was born, where Costetti published reviews and poems.

In 1937, while escaping from Fascism, he travelled for short periods in Holland, Switzerland, England and Norway.

Antonio Scontrino (Trapani, 17 May 1850 - Florence, 7 January 1922) was an Italian composer and contrabass player. Particularly gifted for chamber music, thanks to his Quartet No. 1, first performed in Florence by the renowned Florentine Quartet. In 1906, when the present portrait was made, both Costetti and Scontrino were friends of the famous Italian poet Gabriele D'Annunzio: Costetti made illustrations for D'Annunzio's *La Nave*, while Scontrino was commissioned to write stage music for the poet's tragedies.

