

SA1057010

c.1680 Portrait of a Lady
Holding a Portrait Miniature of
a Boy; Circle of John Michael
Wright (1617-1694), Antique
Oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1057010

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 89 cm (35.0")

Width = 77 cm (30.3")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

In this touching composition a young woman has been depicted wearing a dark coloured dress, draped at the bodice with a gauzy silk scarf and with pearls and large diamonds, over a white chemise, the attire is indicative of the sitters wealth. The portrait can be dated to circa 1673 and 1680 based on the sitter's hairstyle and clothing. The image serves as a poignant reminder of the historic function of the portrait miniature, which features prominently in the composition. The portable nature of the miniature, and indeed the cost of obtaining one, meant that often these little portraits were the only likeness one would own of an intimate – usually a lover, spouse, or a child. In this work, the miniature depicting a young boy, between the age of six to ten, is presumed to be her son. Miniature painting developed in the early 16th century out of the tradition of illuminating manuscripts (hand-written books). In England, miniature was predominantly a portrait art that was undertaken by specialist miniature painters. By tradition the sitter in our portrait is Ann Curran. It is very plausible that our portrait is the same one that was in the collection of The Most Honou...

Seller Details

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