

SA1130300

Early 17th Century German School, Vita Christi, Thirty Miniatures - Ink and pigment with gilt on paper

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1130300

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 83 cm (32.7")

Width = 51 cm (20.1")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

This rather fascinating arrangement of early 17th century miniatures depicts thirty scenes from the life of Christ. The origins of this collection are unknown but it's likely that the miniatures either formed part of a larger manuscript or served as a picture book illustrating the 'Vita Christi'. In the top left, we see the Annunciation, whereby the Archangel Gabriel announces to the Virgin Mary that she will conceive a son by the power of the Holy Spirit to be called Jesus. While in the bottom right, we're given the Ascension of Jesus, where he ascends to Heaven after his resurrection. Books of this nature were produced by medieval artisans and were particularly popular between the 14th and mid-16th century. Numerous versions still exist, which are usually painted with natural mineral colours on to animal skin (parchment or vellum). Museums tend to hold the finest examples, which were designed for the highest echelons of aristocracy, such as this from circa 1320, by the Florentine illuminator Pacino di Bonaguida (ca. 1280-1340) and his workshop. And this 16th-century adaptation, which originated in Lombardy, Italy. Much like the 'Books of Hours', these tactile devotio...

Seller Details

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