

SA1137766

Mid-17th-Century Neapolitan School, Still Life With Grapes, Peaches, Plums & Figs On A Silver Platter - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1137766****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 104 cm (40.9")

Width = 90 cm (35.4")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This elaborate mid-17th-century Neapolitan school still life depicts a pyramidal arrangement of fruit on a circular silver platter. It's somewhat reminiscent of works by Luca Forte (c.1615-c.1670). Emboldened by Baroque *chiaroscuro*, blushing peaches radiate amid a display of Naples' finest. Perched atop a sprawl of decadent grapes, plums and figs reflect glints of carefully observed light. There's the occasional wormhole - perhaps a symbolic nod to the inevitability of decay. We see the influence of the Dutch masters, such as Balthasar van der Ast (1593/1594-1657), yet the spirit is enchantingly Neapolitan. The luscious fruit of Naples has been celebrated by artists for centuries. Rich with fertile volcanic land and an abundance of water, the region offers a superior growing environment. Indeed, at Pompeii, archaeologists discovered numerous still lifes adorning the walls of buildings, such as a fresco depicting apples, grapes, and pomegranates. While at Herculaneum, fragments of wall paintings dating to 79 AD depict three still lifes, including branches of peaches. During the 17th century, the popularity of still life painting in Naples led to a thriving environment for...

Seller Details

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