

SA1173842

Portrait of Antoinette Coucy in an Elaborate Red Dress with Lace & Jewels c.1605; 17th century French School, Oil on canvas

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1173842

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 94 cm (37.0")

Width = 77 cm (30.3")

Depth = 12 cm (4.7")

Description

This lavish portrait depicts a member of the noble family of Coucy, France. The family played a significant role in medieval France, particularly during the 12th and 13th centuries, when they were influential in both military and political spheres. The Coucy family is noted for their stronghold, the Château de Coucy, which was one of the largest and most impressive castles of its time – the donjon (keep) was the largest in Europe. The sitter has been depicted wearing a fortune in jewels - gold, diamond, and pearls - as a coronet, earrings, several ropes of pearls, and a plethora of large gold and diamond brooches across the entire bodice. Her face is almost completely enveloped in a fine Medici pleated standing collar. The fashionable billowing sleeves are slashed to show that no expense was spared, even for the lining inside them. Portraits at this time primarily depicted the French nobility and aristocracy, showcasing their status through formal poses and opulent attire and garments that denote the sitter's social status elevating the sitter, to an almost God-like being, and proclaiming to every onlooker that she is a superior being. The Italian-born queen mother,...

Seller Details

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