

SA1179248

Juan Ruiz Soriano (Circle), The Divine Shepherdess (La Divina Pastora), Mid-18th-Century Oil Painting

Price

GBP 3,500

| USD \$4,736 | EUR 4,095

Item Reference: SA1179248**Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 99 cm (39.0")

Width = 78 cm (30.7")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

This tender mid-18th-century Sevillian oil painting depicts the Virgin Mary as La Divina Pastora, the Divine Shepherdess. Attired in a straw hat, decorated with flora, she rests in quiet contemplation. In her left hand, a single rose, a symbol of her divine grace. By her right, an affectionate lamb nuzzles, while others look on. It's a gentle portrayal of nurture imbued with distinct Sevillian iconography. Above, an angel hovers amid a glow of celestial light, while in the distance, a stranded lamb is pursued by a delirious wolf. The emotive image of Mary as a Shepherdess was conceived during the early 18th century by the Capuchin friar Fray Isidoro of Seville. Here, the 'flock' symbolism refers to the souls guarded by her protection, each gifted with a rose to represent her virtues. While the fleeing lamb is an allegory of those endangered by the perils of sin. In Sevillian Capuchin scripture, she's known as the 'rosa mystica', the mystical rose who tends to the faithful. During the mid-18th century, when this piece was produced, there was a noticeable shift from the grand undertones of the Baroque towards the lighter atmosphere of the Rococo. This is reflected in th...

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Seller Details

Brave Fine Art

21 Enterprise Way Arle Road Cheltenham Cotswolds GL51 8LZ
United Kingdom Under appointment only.

Tel: 01684 215986

International Tel: +44 1684 215986

