

SA1207071

Otto Knille, Portrait Of A Young Lady - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1207071

Date of manufacture: 1850

Dimensions

Height = 84 cm (33.1")

Width = 74 cm (29.1")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This refined mid-19th-century half-length portrait by German artist Otto Knille (1832-1898) depicts a young woman attired in a dark dress, offset by a delicate white lace collar that spreads lightly across her shoulders. Turning slightly to her left, her gaze is directed just beyond the viewer, as if momentarily distracted by a passing thought. There's the faintest suggestion of a smile, which softens her lips, while her dark, luminous eyes convey a sense of inward reflection. Her hair is parted at the centre and arranged in smooth side coils - elegantly framing her face. Knille has captured this portrayal with particular sensitivity, and his handling suggests he sought to convey the subtleties of her presence. Trained at the Düsseldorf Academy and later working under Karl von Piloty in Munich, he absorbed a rigorous approach to drawing, modelling, and tonal harmony. Even within this portrait, one senses the influence of history painting - the careful construction of form, the measured control of light, and the desire to convey something beyond a mere likeness. The painting is dated 1857, which places it firmly within Knille's Munich period. At the time, the city was ...

Internal Ref: BRV2260

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