

SA1212262

oil Painting Cornelis Raaphorst, Interior With Kittens & Fish Bowl - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1212262****Date of manufacture: 1930**

Dimensions

Height = 80 cm (31.5")

Width = 101 cm (39.8")

Depth = 8 cm (3.1")

Description

This early 20th-century oil on canvas by Dutch artist Cornelis Raaphorst (1875-1954) depicts several kittens gathered around a glass fishbowl. It exemplifies the artist's celebrated approach to animal painting and combines technical precision with a sense of domestic theatre. A moment of quiet tension unfolds at the centre of the composition. Four kittens, each distinct in character, circle a fishbowl with varying degrees of curiosity and restraint. One leans forward, nose almost touching the glass, captivated by the slow movement of the goldfish within. Another stands alert, its posture tentative yet intent, while a third crouches low, as if preparing to pounce. Above them, a fourth kitten reclines upon a stack of books, observing the scene with a languid detachment. The fish, suspended within the curved glass, appear both vivid and unreachable. It's an object of fascination just beyond grasp. Raaphorst enriches this simple narrative through his exquisite handling of surface and texture. The deep red drapery behind, heavy with pattern and shadow, creates a dramatic backdrop that heightens the sense of intimacy. Beneath a richly coloured textile spreads across the tabl...

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