

SA1217106

17th century portrait of a young girl standing on a garden terrace, attributed to John Riley (1646-1691) and John Closterman (1660-1711)

Price

GBP 24,000

| USD \$32,477 | EUR 28,082

Item Reference: SA1217106

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 186 cm (73.2")

Width = 126 cm (49.6")

Description

The sensitively painted young girl's face has a softness and realism conveying a sense of her character which is typical of Riley's artistic style, rather than the usual idealised depiction of beauty in this period. The white blossom she holds is possibly orange blossom which was often used to symbolise the purity and youth of the sitter and her availability for marriage. Oil on canvas in a giltwood frame Dimensions: 186 x 126cm John Riley (1646-1691) was born in Bishopsgate, London and was the son of John Riley Senior and his stepmother Jochebed (d. Jan 1693). In around 1660 Riley began training under Isaac Fuller (1606-1672) and later under Gerard Soest (1605-1681). The courtier and Keeper of the King's Jewels and Closet, Thomas Chiffinch sat for him, and was so pleased with his portrait (Dulwich Picture Gallery) that he showed it to King Charles II. Charles II gave Riley some commissions, eventually sitting for him himself where he commented 'Is this like me? then odds fish I'm an ugly fellow!'. Riley allegedly took this comment personally and he was never able to bear looking at the portrait again. His friend and earliest biographer, Richard Graham claimed 'tha...

Seller Details

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