

SA1220933

A copy of Greiffenhagens An Idyll oil painting of a couple in intimate pose

Price

GBP 350

| USD \$473 | EUR 409

Item Reference: SA1220933

Date of manufacture: 1920

Dimensions

Height = 102 cm (40.2")

Width = 62 cm (24.4")

Description

1920s copy of the famous painting An Idyll by greiffenhagen Although Greiffenhagen regularly exhibited in the Royal Academy, 'An Idyll' was the painting that established his reputation. The painting was an instant success and as a result was reproduced many times. It depicts a young man dressed as a shepherd embracing a woman on a slope of pastureland. Despite the many paintings featuring female nudity from this period, paintings of physical intimacy like this one were very rare. The shepherd is depicted grabbing the young woman with a sudden powerful movement. Her body falls powerless into his arms, the light colour of her skin contrasts with his. Her expression may have been characterised as ecstatic, but it is striking that she seems more to surrender to the young man's passion than to actively participate in the embrace. An active role on behalf of the woman in a scene of passionate intimacy would have been unacceptable to a Victorian audience. However, the woman's surrender and her gaze captures the passion and spontaneity of the moment. Greiffenhagen relied on colour as the expressive medium of the painting. The vibrant warm red colour of the poppies at the feet...

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