

SA182914

SOLD....Portrait of a Young Woman as Selene, Goddess of the Moon c.1910; by Mela Muller

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA182914

Date of manufacture: 1910

Description

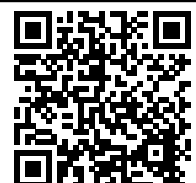
Oil on canvas in modern giltwood frame, signed, bottom right, 'MULLER MELA.' This exquisite portrait of a beautiful young woman depicts her as Selene, the Moon Goddess. Shown in profile, with closed eyes, the sitter conveys a feeling of tranquility and an intriguing sense of both the erotic and the innocent. Moonstones in her hair represent the stars, the gleaming robe of the Milky Way is around her and she holds a corn plant... vitally important as a constituent of bread - the staff of life. Corn also symbolised plenty. In Greek mythology Selene was the daughter of Hyperion and Theia, the sister of Helios the Sun God and Eos the Dawn. Selene, "the eternally beautiful", is one of the triple goddesses of the Moon: Artemis - the waxing moon, Selene - the full moon, and Hecate - the waning moon. Selene is the mother goddess...a symbol of womanhood, and is represented by the full moon, where she is at the height of her reproductive potential. Known to the Romans as Luna, she is responsible for the germination of seeds and new crops. The days of the full and new moon were set aside for her worship. The calendars and rituals of her worship helped people to measure time to...

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