

SA18862

SOLD....Anne of Austria, Queen of France; French School, 17th century

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA18862

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in a simple oak frame. A worn inscription upper left 'ANNE D'AUTRICHE. REINE DE FRANCE'. This is a pleasing portrait of the young daughter of Philip of Spain painted in the 17th century, copied from, or a version of, an early 17th c. original presumably recording the betrothal of the young princess at the age of ten. Typical of its period in that no attempt is made to reveal anything of the character or personality of the sitter. This is a State image of wealth and power with much care lavished on the depiction of the fabulously costly clothing....in effect, this is a political icon. As such it gives us a fascinating glimpse of early 17th c. Europe. ANNE OF AUSTRIA, 1601-66, later Queen of France, was the daughter of King Philip III of Spain. She was married to the French King Louis XIII in 1615 at the age of fourteen, having been betrothed to him from the age of ten. This was a marriage of state, uniting powerful nations...it was not a happy marriage. Neglected by her husband and his mother Marie de Medici who acted as if she was still Queen of France, she sought the society of the court intrigues, Mme de Chevreuse. Anne's indiscreet behaviour, especial...

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Seller Details

Roy Precious - Antiques & Fine Art

Wiltshire United Kingdom



Tel: 01249 815048 or 07710 222273

International Tel: +44 1249 815048 or +44 7710 222273