

SA206423

OIL PORTRAIT OF THE
PENITENT MAGDALENE
AFTER TITIAN EARLY-MID
18TH CENTURY 1720-40
EUROPEAN SCHOOL &
PRESENTED IN DECORATIVE
LATER FRAME 33 X 38
SOLD

Item Reference: SA206423

Date of manufacture: 1700

Description

We are delighted to be able to offer an early-mid 18th century oil on canvas portrait titled "The Penitent Magdalen" after Titian's famous original painted back in 1533. NOTE THE SKULL (See Image 13 lower right corner) Saint Mary Madalene has been painted by many artists throughout the last 300 years, with some versions having the image of a skull, seen normally at the feet of Mary or in the lower right hand corners of many examples. In some old masters, these were later painted over. With the addition of the painted skull termed as "Memento Mori" which is a Latin phrase translating to mean either: "Remember your mortality", "Remember you must die" or "Remember you will die". It refers to a genre of artworks that vary widely but which all share the same purpose: to remind people of their mortality, an artistic theme dating back to antiquity. Popular belief says the phrase originated in ancient Rome: As a Roman general was parading through the streets during a victory triumph, standing behind him was his slave, tasked with reminding the general that, although at his peak today, tomorrow he could fall or — more likely — be brought down. The servant is thought to have conv...

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