

SA395053

Portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots, Manner of Federico Zuccaro.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA395053****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Description

Oil on canvas in a 19th century gilt frame with gold label 'Mary Queen of Scots. Federigo Zuccaro' 1543-1609'. To the left of the sitter the very faint inscription 'Anno 1564. Aetatis'. Original frame. This beautiful portrait is in the manner of Federico Zuccaro, but painted c.1840. The queen wears magnificent gold chains, jewellery and a hugely costly dress. The quality of the painting of this opulence is superb, and contrasts perfectly with the sensitive depiction of the sitter's youthful face. This image dates from the early 19th century when, in continuation of what had happened when after the Stuarts came to power with the accession of Mary's son James I, a process of history rewriting took place, and continued almost to the present day. Mary had been called an adulteress and traitor by the English and was beheaded for plotting to assassinate her cousin Elizabeth I, but under the Stuarts she was presented as a beautiful and religious princess unjustly executed for her Catholic faith. All through the 17th c, and later, portraits of Mary were created; this one shows her, rather idealised, at the age of 22 in 1564 when she had returned to Scotland after the de...

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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