

SA465057

**Portrait of Mary Queen of
Scots, British 18th Century;
After Federico Zuccaro
(c.1540–1609)**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA465057

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 78 cm (30.7")

Width = 64 cm (25.2")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

Oil on canvas. Mary, Queen of Scots was one of the most fascinating and controversial monarchs of 16th century Europe. At one time, she claimed the crowns of four nations – Scotland, France, England and Ireland. Her physical beauty and kind heart were acknowledged even by her enemies. Yet she lacked the political skill and intuition to rule successfully in Scotland and was embroiled in marriages that ended in murder and scandal. She fled to England in 1568, hoping for the help of her cousin, Elizabeth I. Her presence was dangerous for the English queen, who feared Catholic plotting on Mary's behalf. The two queens never met and Mary remained imprisoned for the next nineteen years. She was executed in 1587, only forty-four years old, by orders of the English government and all of her possessions were burned. In 1603, upon Elizabeth's death, Mary's son became king of England as James I and in 1612 he moved her body to a magnificent tomb in Westminster Abbey, London. The handling of the paint in this 18th century work is very good throughout and the fabric has been meticulously portrayed. The artist of this portrait was familiar with and took inspiration from another...

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