

SA484932

Portrait of a Girl c.1655; Circle or Studio of Johannes Mijdens.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA484932

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 104 cm (40.9")

Width = 88 cm (34.6")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Oil on canvas in a very fine quality carved 17th century frame. The frame is not the original as it has been reduced, expertly, in size; however it of the right period and a work of art in its own right. The frame bears an old label attributing the portrait to van Dyke. As was fashionable in Dutch portraiture at this time the sitter clothes are a mixture of high fashion and fantasy. To make the costume seem as timeless as possible the lace collar and cuffs of the period are missing, and the girl is decorated with a draped cloth instead; the hairstyle, however, could not be more fashionable and the pearls, the Baroque jewels par excellence, are clearly displayed. The sitter's eyes are modestly downcast, her arms across her abdomen ... a symbol of future fertility ..and as upper class girls married at 12-14 years of age, it is very likely that this is a pre-marriage portrait. This is a beautiful and quietly moving glimpse of a life lived over 350 years ago. Life expectancy was short and childbirth was dangerous. This girl's faraway look and slight smile make one wonder how her life progressed..... JOHANNES MIJTENS (JAN MYTENS) 1614-1670 who came from The Hague, made an ...

Seller Details

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