

SA492510

Portrait of Three French Aristocratic Children c.1690; Attributed to Pierre Mignard.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA492510****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 142 cm (55.9")

Width = 112 cm (44.1")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

Oil on canvas in 18th century giltwood frame. A superb quality large 17th century portrait of three children of the French nobility. Such is the splendour and expense of their fashionable clothing that the girls may be princesses, especially as a young gentleman kneels before them. Possibly some of Louis XIV's numerous progeny sired on his several mistresses. Louis legitimised these children and they all received titles. On the reverse of the painting is a very faint inscription which seems to read "Children of Louis 14th by Pierre Mignard". The painting has been reduced in size and changed from rectangle to oval, probably in the late 18th century, as that is the date of the frame, whether because of damage or for a decorative purpose is not known. PIERRE MIGNARD (1612-1695) was a member of a family of artists, he was a painter in the classical French Baroque manner, known primarily for his court portraits. In 1635 Mignard left the studio of Simon Vouet for Italy, where he spent 22 years and made a reputation that brought him a summons to Paris in 1657. Successful with his portrait of Louis XIV and in favour with the court, Mignard pitted himself against Charles Le Br...

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