

SA495861

Portrait of Saints George and Demetrius, Greek Orthodox Icon c.1700.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA495861****Date of manufacture: 1700**

Dimensions

Height = 33 cm (13.0")

Width = 28 cm (11.0")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

Icon. Tempera on panel; the panel warped and much damaged at its foot. Old woodworm holes; inactive. This is a beautiful item, its direct, naïve, style is enhanced by the damages of time, not diminished. Greek Orthodox c1690-1710. The saints are George and Demetrius, their names painted above them. When the two saintly warriors are together and mounted upon horses, they may resemble earthly manifestations of the archangels Michael and Gabriel. Eastern traditions distinguish the two as Saint George rides a white horse and St. Demetrius a red horse. Saint George can also be identified by his spearing a dragon, whereas Saint Demetrius may be spearing a human figure, representing Emperor Maximian, or sometimes the figure is said to be the gladiator Lyaeos, who according to the story was responsible for killing many Christians. Saint George was, according to legend, a Roman soldier of Greek origin and officer in the Guard of Roman Emperor Diocletian, who was sentenced to death for failing to recant his Christian faith. As a Christian martyr, he later became one of the most venerated saints in Christianity and, in particular the Crusades. He is depicted as a Roman soldier a...

Seller Details

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