

SA524680

Portrait of Louis XV as a Boy, After Pierre Gobert.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA524680****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 61 cm (24.0")

Width = 56 cm (22.0")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

Oil on canvas in an elaborate gilded frame. 18th century in the manner of Pierre Gobert (1662-1744). Beautifully painted, with almost a miniaturist's skill, this portrait is of an intimate size, being only 24 inches tall including the frame. This high quality and animated portrait of Louis XV beautifully captures both the regality of this young king and his childhood innocence. Louis XV was widely known as Louis Le Bien Aimé or Louis the Beloved and was born at the Palace of Versailles during the reign of his great-grandfather Louis XIV. Louis XV was not expected to become king, he was the third son of the Duke of Burgundy (who became the Grand Dauphin after his father's death in April 1711) and was given the title of Duke of Anjou. In 1712 the Grand Dauphin's wife, Marie Adélaïde, died of smallpox and only a week later the Grand Dauphin, heartbroken and ill, also died. It soon became apparent that their two sons, Louis, Duke of Brittany and the Duke of Anjou (Louis XV) had also become infected with smallpox and after several attempts to save the Duke of Brittany's life, through extensive bloodletting, he died. The Duke of Anjou's governess, Madame de Ventadour, prevent...

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