

**SA592448**

Portrait of Henriette de Meaux de Valliere c.1685; Circle of Francois de Troy (1645-1730)

Price

**Sold**

**Item Reference: SA592448**

**Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 100 cm (39.4")

Width = 62 cm (24.4")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

## Description

This oil on canvas is an exquisite example of the type of portrait in vogue in France during the last quarter of the 17th century. It is remarkable in its soft modelling of the face and the translucent quality of the skin. The pearlescent flesh tones and pink lips are set off by a dark background intentionally as this focuses almost entirely on the beauty of the sitter - with no distracting jewelry or background - with the exception of a favourite pet which conveys social status (only the wealthy had the means to feed a pet), and the attributes fidelity and trust. The inscription identifies the sitter as Henriette de Meaux de Valliere who was born circa 1660 and died in 1694 in Paris. Her father was Antoine de Meaux de Valliere (d.1694) and her mother was Jeanne Jayet (died 1703 in Noyon). Henriette married François Besnier (died 1703 in Versailles) on the 8th June 1683 (this portrait was painted around 1685). The style, treatment, the confident and sophisticated handling, and the fact that her husband was located in Versailles allude to the leading portraitist in Versailles, François de Troy (1645-1730), who was the principal painter to King James II. De Troy was ...

## Seller Details

**Titan Fine Art**

London United Kingdom



Tel: 07875 412 111

International Tel: +44 7875 412 111