

SA725938

Portrait of Mary, Queen of Scots; Manner of Francois Clouet.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA725938****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 42 cm (16.5")

Width = 36 cm (14.2")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Oil on oak panel, 17th/early 18th century in a period frame. The oak panel is very slightly warped, which is not unusual. This exquisite small portrait, painted with a miniaturist's skill, has a very intimate quality; the sitter's eyes meet the viewer's in a direct and confidential way. We have sold a number of portraits of this sitter, one in particular, also 17th century, was almost identical. Only when the two images are side by side is one aware of the little differences in the copyist's work. Painted in the 17th or early 18th century this portrait is in the manner of Clouet in the 1560s. There are several portraits of Mary, Queen of Scots by him which are very similar both in technique and the appearance of the sitter. It is likely that the portrait was painted in the 17th century when the Stuarts, Mary's descendants, were on the throne and Mary's image was revamped from traitor to martyr. Mary had been called an adulteress and traitor by the English and was beheaded for plotting to assassinate her cousin Elizabeth I, but under the Stuarts she was presented as a beautiful and religious princess unjustly executed for her Catholic faith. FRANCOIS CLOUET (c. 1510 – 22 ...

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Seller Details

Roy Precious - Antiques & Fine Art

Wiltshire United Kingdom



Tel: 01249 815048 or 07710 222273

International Tel: +44 1249 815048 or +44 7710 222273