

SA84678

SOLD...Portrait of a Young Girl
c.1670; Studio or Circle of
Phillippe de Champaigne

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA84678

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in giltwood frame. This beautiful portrait is of a girl of six or seven years of age; the child wears the white dress, blue robe and the headcloth traditionally associated with the Virgin Mary, and stands, hands gently touching as if in prayer, looking at the viewer with a serene confidence. At a time when religion was a vitally important part of everyone's life this depiction of the sitter would be understood as showing not only the innocence and purity of the little girl but also expressing a hope that such virtues would remain with her and that she would be protected by God as she went through life. Thus the image is not only a charming portrait of an attractive child but is also an insight into the mindset of the 17th century European. PHILLIPPE DE CHAMPAIGNE (born May 26, 1602, Brussels – died Aug. 12, 1674, Paris) A Flemish-born French painter, he trained in Brussels, arriving in Paris in 1621. His patrons included Louis XIII, Marie de Médicis, and Cardinal Richelieu, and he became the outstanding French portraitist of the Baroque period. His artistic style was varied: far from being limited to the realism traditionally associated with Flemish paint...

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