

SA848346

Portrait of Louise-Marie of France c.1748; Circle of Jean-Marc Nattier (1685-1766), Oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA848346

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 86 cm (33.9")

Width = 75.5 cm (29.7")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

Conformity rather than individuality was a hallmark of Nattier's enormous success portraying French aristocratic women: his portraits represent contrasting ivory skin and bright blush, powdered hair and soft features set against warm landscapes. Between 1730 and 1760, the period which marked Nattier's rise to prominence, he espoused two models for his portraits of women at Versailles and in wealthy Paris society. He showed these clients either in court or formal costume (a lace or elaborately embroidered dress with an oval neckline, narrow sleeves to the elbow, and a tight, pointed bodice), or, in accordance with his own preference, he painted them in loose, low-cut draperies and in allegorical guise. In either case they usually wore their short hair lightly powdered and ornamented with flowers. Nattier's preferred colours in addition to white were blue, ivory, and red, and his shiny fabrics look like satin. He used three formats, bust, three-quarter, and as here, half-length. This remarkable work represents a young Louise-Marie of France (1737-1787), known as Madame Louise de France, daughter of Louis XV, in a court dress and ermine stole, holding a pink carnation. Na...

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