

SA874552

Portrait of King Louis XIII of France and Navarre c.1611;
Circle of Frans Pourbus the Younger (1569–1622), Antique
oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA874552

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 57 cm (22.4")

Width = 50 cm (19.7")

Depth = 3 cm (1.2")

Description

This jewel-like portrait represents King Louis XIII of France and Navarre. The resplendent doublet and elaborate openwork lace standing collar were expensive items and as such important markers of his wealth and status. On the chain is the badge of the ancient honor of chivalry, the L'Ordre de Saint-Esprit (Order of The Holy Spirit) – founded in 1578 for the nobility. The portrait was painted circa 1611 when Louis was about 10 years old and at the time Frans Pourbus the Younger became Maria de Medici's court painter in Paris. The artist depicted Louis as Dauphin and also as King on several occasions. Louis XIII was born in 1601 at the Château de Fontainebleau in France. He was the eldest son of King Henri IV and his second wife, Marie de' Medici. When his father died and he became King, his mother Marie de' Medici was appointed Regent, to serve until he became of age. Despite reaching his majority in 1614, his mother continued to exert her influence as Regent, deeming her son "too weak in body and spirit". It would be several years before Louis asserted his authority. In April 1617, he organised a coup d'état, ousting his mother's primary minister Concino Concini a...

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