

**SA950051**

## Heinrich Spiess, The Love Letter - Antique Oil Painting

Price

**Sold**

**Item Reference: SA950051**

**Date of manufacture: 1860**

Dimensions

Height = 59 cm (23.2")

Width = 48 cm (18.9")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

## Description

This mid-19th-century oil painting by German artist Heinrich Spiess (1832-1875) depicts a young lady reading a love letter. It's an accomplished work by an artist with a profound admiration for the old masters. Once again, she's returned to her jewellery box to unearth a treasured letter from an admirer. Every time surreptitiously tucking it away from prying eyes inside a lockable jewellery box. There's a chill of excitement as she delicately holds his words with both hands. A shudder of emerging romance, a dream unfolding. She's not wearing a wedding ring - but for how long? Whatever happened to love letters? Such a pleasing way of conveying one's feelings. Heinrich Spiess was immersed in the illustrious world of the old masters from an early age. His father, August Fred Spiess (1806-1855), was a notable draughtsman and produced numerous engravings after eminent Renaissance luminaries. They worked together on various projects. As a child, the young Heinrich would've been surrounded by old master prints. Here, we see a subtle nod to the Dutch masters of the 17th century, such as Johannes Vermeer (1632-1675) and Gabriël Metsu (1629-1667). Heinrich Speiss trained at the...

## Seller Details

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