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Still Life Of Flowers, 17th Century Daniel Seghers (1590-1661)



6 900 EUR

Signature : Daniel Seghers (1590-1661)

Period : 17th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 115cm

Width : 100cm

Description

Still Life Of Flowers, 17th Century

Daniel Seghers (1590-1661)

Large 17th Century Flemish Old Master still life of flowers, oil on canvas attributed to Daniel Seghers. Excellent quality and condition study of various flowers in a swag. Presented in a period ebony frame.

Measurements: 45" x 40" framed approx

Biography

Flemish School, 17th century, male.

Dealer

SFA Gallery

Les sp  cialistes dans les beaux-arts des XVIe-XIXe si  cles

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Born 5 December 1590, in Antwerp; died 2 November 1661, in Antwerp.

Painter. Religious subjects, portraits, flowers, insects.

Following the death of his father Pieter Seghers', Daniel Seghers' was raised in Holland as a Calvinist by his mother. He discovered painting and is cited as a pupil of Jan Brueghel the Elder (nicknamed 'Velvet' Brueghel) in Antwerp. He re-converted to Catholicism and became a guild master in 1611 before entering the Jesuit Order as a novice in Mechelen in 1614. He spent time in Brussels and a year in Rome. He worked for a number of royal patrons. His pupils were P. van Thielen, O. Elliger, N. Verendael, F. Ykeus, J. van Son, H. Galle, J.G. Gillemans, C. Luckx and J. Davidsz. de Heem. He painted the floral motifs in works by his friend Rubens, and in those of Erasmus Quellinus, Van Thulden, Cornelis Schut and Abraham van Diepenbeeck. He travelled to Ghent for health reasons in the winter of 1660 and died upon his return to Antwerp.

For Seghers' still-lives, genre scenes (often with religious themes, such as the Vision of St Francis or the Holy Family) or, more frequently, images of saints in tondo form (St Ignatius or even the Christ of Sorrows) were pretexts for the depiction of decorative flower garlands, executed in the minutely detailed, enamelled style of the Flemish 17th century. Seghers' flower garlands are purely decorative, generally framing a central image by another artist, but are saved from anonymity by his evident depth of botanical knowledge and imaginative compositional sense. The resulting works were clearly conceived as a unified whole, with the central images often painted in grisaille or dark tones, in deliberate contrast to Seghers' varied, delicate palette of whites and carmines complementing the more sober greens of the foliage. Lilies, roses and columbines are frequently intertwined with brambles, berries and thistles. Two of the finest examples are to be seen

at the Mauritshuis in The Hague (Garland of Flowers with the Virgin and Child (1645), with a central motif by Bosschaert) and at the Capodimonte Museum in Naples (Garland of Flowers surrounding an image of the Virgin). More conventional flower pieces also feature in Seghers' work, albeit rarely; the 1643 painting of a vase of flowers in the Dresden Gemäldegalerie is a good example. At its most sophisticated, Seghers' work touches on the Baroque, for example in the 1643 Garland Surrounding a Bust of St Ignatius Loyola in the city museum of Antwerp. The genre enjoyed considerable success throughout Europe, spawning numerous imitators, from whom Seghers' work is distinguished by its minute observation and refined sense of colour.

Seghers' work featured in In the Light of Rubens. Baroque Painters of the Southern Netherlands (Dans la Lumière de Rubens: Peintres Baroques des Pays-Bas du Sud) at the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Valenciennes in 2000, an exhibition highlighting the work of the talented Flemish painters so often eclipsed by their illustrious contemporaries Rubens, Van Dyck and Jordaens.

Museum and Gallery Holdings

Antwerp: Garland of Flowers (surrounding a 'St Ignatius Loyola' by C. Schut); Flowers (surrounding a 'Portrait of a Man' by Gouz Coques); St Theresa; Virgin

Arras: Garland of Flowers

Berlin: two still-lives

Birmingham: Flowers

Brussels: Garland of Flowers; Flowers (surrounding a 'Jesus' by Quellinus)

Budapest: Garland of Flowers

Dresden: six flower paintings

Florence: Garland of Flowers with a Bust of a Man in Chiaroscuro

Geneva (Mus. Ariana): Hermit Surrounded by Orange Blossom and Roses

Naples (Mus. di Capodimonte): Garland of
Flowers (surrounding a 'Virgin')

Oberschleissheim (Neues Schloss Schleissheim,
Staatsgal.): Roses

Orléans: Garland of Flowers Surrounding the
Holy Family in a Medallion

Stockholm: two paintings of flowers

The Hague: Garlands of Flowers Surrounding
Portraits of William of Orange

The Hague (Mauritshuis): Garland of Flowers
(1645, surrounding a 'Virgin and Child' by
Bosschaert)

Vienna: Flowers

Bibliography

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