



Portrait Of A Young Woman In A Blue Dress, France, Late 18th Century

14 500 EUR



Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 78

Height : 85

Depth : 8

Description

Portrait of a Young Woman in a Blue Dress, France, Late 18th Century
Dimension: frame cm W 78 x H 85 x D 8; Canvas cm W 54 x H 64
This refined female portrait, painted in France during the final decades of the 18th century, depicts a young woman elegantly dressed in the fashion of the period, characterized by vivid silk fabrics, fitted bodices, and necklines adorned with delicate lace. The voluminous hairstyle, supported by padding and ribbons, reflects the style then fashionable among Parisian elites, in an age when elegance served as a social as well as an aesthetic statement. The figure is rendered with luminous, soft modelling, typical of pre-Revolutionary French portraiture. The care devoted to the shimmering blue fabric, the velvety texture of the complexion, and the

Dealer

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restrained intensity of the expression reveal the hand of an artist fully immersed in the pictorial culture of the time. These qualities bring the work close to the language of Adélaïde Labille-Guiard, one of the most important French portrait painters of the eighteenth century, or to her immediate circle: pupils, collaborators, or artists who followed her stylistic model. Labille-Guiard, a central figure in artistic Paris under the Ancien Régime, was among the few women admitted to the Académie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture in 1783. Renowned for the psychological subtlety of her portraits and her remarkable ability to depict fabrics, lace, and refined surfaces, she was also a strong advocate for women's artistic education. Her studio and circle attracted numerous young female painters who found in her not only a stylistic reference but also a guiding presence in a predominantly male environment. This portrait, with its balance of aristocratic elegance and naturalness, perfectly reflects the cultural atmosphere of late eighteenth-century Paris: a refined, worldly environment on the threshold of revolutionary transformation. Its intimate mood, softened lighting against a dark background, and high-quality execution place the work firmly within the great tradition of French portraiture. The period frame, finely carved and gilded wood, further enhances the quality of the painting, confirming its decorative appeal and pleasant visual presence.