



Portrait Of A Young Princess. 17th-century French School, Circa 1600



5 700 EUR

Period : 17th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Width : 35

Height : 41

Description

Circle of François Clouet Oil on oak panel, 28 × 22 cm. Presented in a lovely gilded wooden frame with guilloché moldings and red motifs in the corners, 41 × 35 cm This delicate portrait of a woman follows the refined tradition of French portraiture at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries, inherited from François Clouet and his circle. The young princess, depicted in a half-length portrait against a dark background, embodies the ideals of beauty at the French court under the late Valois and early Bourbon reigns: a diaphanous white complexion, rosy lips, and a gentle, slightly distant gaze. Identifying the model remains difficult: the beauty standards of the era are reflected in numerous female figures, both known and anonymous, making any specific attribution uncertain. This idealized face

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illustrates a type rather than an individual, a symbol of elegance and purity. The costume displays great refinement: a red bodice adorned with fine gold stripes, puffed sleeves, and a wide, meticulously crafted ruffled collar. The jewelry--a necklace of dark pearls and a gold pendant set with a black stone--adds a touch of discreet elegance. Her hair is pulled up under an embroidered veil, styled in the "racket" fashion popular in the late 16th century, and a set of pearls and rubies completes this composition of rare elegance. The fine, smooth paint reveals a very delicate network of craquelure, typical of old panels. The work captivates with its freshness and balance, striking a harmony between the rigor of the depiction and feminine grace. This portrait, in excellent condition, perfectly illustrates the French taste for aristocratic restraint and the technical perfection inherited from Clouet, while foreshadowing the sensibility of the 17th century. Good condition--Sold with a certificate of authenticity