

Fine Art / Wed, 21st February 2024 / Lot 1



LOT 1

Italian School – Madonna di Re (Madonna del Latte), late 17th/early 18th oil on canvas, 72cm x 57.5cm, within a gilt frame. Note: the iconography of this Nursing Madonna corresponds to a specific event in the history of the Santuario della Madonna del Sangue Basilica in Re, Piedmont, Italy. On 29th April 1494, a group of young people met in front of the Church of San Maurizio to play a traditional village game, *pidella*, which consisted of throwing a flat stone against a wooden cylinder on which a coin was placed. One of them, particularly unlucky in the game, became angry and threw his stone, striking a ‘Madonna del Latte’ fresco on the facade of the church. The following morning the fresco of the Madonna began to bleed from her forehead.

Estimate: £1,200 - £1,500

Condition Report

1 - Relined and cleaned. Some craquelure throughout. U.V examination highlights some borders of overpainting throughout, but less than you might usually expect for a work of this date. There is also a light surface scratch across the Madonna's nose and eye. Paint a little thin in areas. Some subsequent surface dirt. Frame generally in good condition but with minor chips to extremities.

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