

BRAFA 2020 - Klaas Muller highlight : Frans Snijders

Klaas Muller Gallery, specialized in painting, drawing and sculpture dating from the 16th to the 18th century with particular emphasis on Italian, Dutch and Flemish masters is proud to present a masterpiece at BRAFA 2020 :



Frans Snijders (Antwerp 1579-1657)

Still Life with a Lobster, Fruits, Artichokes and Asparagus on a table

Oil on panel

78.5 x 85.5 cm (30 ⁷/₈ x 33 ⁵/₈ inches)

Dr. Fred Meijer confirmed the work as an authentic Frans Snijders (September 2019).

Frans Snyder (also 'Snijders' and 'Snyers') was the son of an inn-keeper. After his education at the atelier of Pieter Brueghel the Younger and Hendrick Van Balen he became member of the Antwerp Saint Luke Guild in 1602. Snyder travelled to Italy around 1608 where he spend most of his time in Milan and Rome. Around 1613 he was back in Antwerp where he married Margaretha De Vos (sister of the painters Paul and Cornelis). Despite he was a good friend of Anthony Van Dyck, Snyder was in his painting more influenced by Rubens with whom he collaborated several times on the same works (even very shortly after his return to Antwerp, eg 'Prometheus Bound', Museum of Art, Philadelphia). Very soon Snyder became the most popular and famous still-life painter in the Southern Netherlands of the 17th century. His most famous students were Jan Roos, Paul de Vos, Jan Fijt and Peter van Boucle.

The work can be dated around 1630. Similar works with the same elements but staged differently can be seen in Copenhagen (Statensmuseum For Kunst, Inv. Sp 208), Madrid (Prado, Inv. Nr. 1757) and Brussels (for the lobster: KMSK, Inv. Nr. 4951, now on loan in the Snyder-Rockox Museum, Antwerp). Interesting changes in the composition are visible with the naked eye (eg grape branches painted over certain quinces, changement in position of the lobster plate).

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