

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Margareta de Vos

Anthony van Dyck (Flemish, 1599–1641)

Date ca. 1620

Medium Oil on canvas

Dimensions 51 1/2 x 39 1/8 in. (130.8 x 99.4 cm)

Credit Line Henry Clay Frick Bequest

Accession Number 1909.1.42

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 13, West Gallery

Commentary Margareta de Vos was the daughter of a distiller and sister of three painters. In Van Dyck's depiction, De Vos's gleaming and starched millstone collar would have served as a striking token of prosperity, while his alterations to the composition of her head are now visible to the naked eye. The glass vase of flowers in De Vos's portrait represents one of the most virtuosic passages in all of Van Dyck's work, transmuting bold and unerring strokes of blue and buttery yellow paint into reflections on the surface of the vase.

Collection History De Nossé. Duc d'Orléans (mentioned in 1727, inventories of 1752 and 1785). In 1792 the Dutch, Flemish, and German pictures of the Orléans collection were sold by Philippe Égalité for 350,000 francs to T.M. Slade, Chatham. In 1793 the Frick picture was bought, presumably during the London exhibition of the Orléans pictures (Old Academy Rooms, Pall Mall, Wilson catalogue, No. 121), by the Earl of Warwick. Knoedler. Frick, 1909. Source: Paintings in The Frick Collection: American, British, Dutch, Flemish and German. Volume I. New York: The Frick Collection, 1968.