SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

A Blanc de Chine Guanyin

John Bulloch Souter

Sold

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REF: 375277

Height: 21.5 cm (8.5")

Width: 15 cm (5.9")

Description

JOHN BULLOCH SOUTER (1890-1972)

Blanc de Chine Guanyin

Signed with initials and inscribed u.r.: C from J Oil on panel Unframed

21.5 by 5 cm., 8 by 6 in.

Provenance: By descent in the artist’s family.

The inscription suggests this was a gift from the artist to his wife, Christian. Chinese porcelain blanc de chine figures often featured in Souter’s still life studies and presumably came from his own collection. John “Jack” Bulloch Souter was born in Aberdeen where he studied at Gray’s School of Art. After winning the Allan Fraser Scholarship he went on to study for four years at Hospitalfield Art College in Arbroath. In 1912, on the recommendation of Sir George Clausen he was awarded the Byrne Travelling Scholarship which enabled him to tour France, Spain, Italy, Switzerland and Belgium. During this trip he was particularly impressed and influenced by the work of Velazquez, Vermeer and Chardin. After serving in the Gordon Highlanders and the Royal Army Medical Corps during World War I he moved to London in 1922 and gained a reputation as a painter of still life subjects and fashionable portraits. His sitters included Ivor Novello and Gladys Cooper. He exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1914 and at the Royal Scottish Academy, Fine Art Society, Redfern Gallery and elsewhere. During World War II he worked some of the time in the Post Office Censorship Department as a translator but spent the majority of his time restoring paintings at Windsor Castle. He returned to live in Aberdeen in 1952. Works by him are in the collection of the Victoria & Albert Museum, Aberdeen Art Gallery and elsewhere.

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