

KLAAS MULLER

C E S A R E F R A N C H I , A K A P O L

Crowning of the Virgin with Saint Catherine of Alexandria and Angels playing music and Children dancing.

Our miniature is included in Franchi's monography by Dr. Michele Drascek and Simone Andreoni

Franchi was a leading miniaturist from Perugia (later active in Rome) creating fine quality miniatures that resemble tiny versions of late Renaissance paintings. His work is very rare because of his short life (Pollino was executed for murder) and just about 12 miniatures of Pollino survived (most of them in the British library).

he influences of Michaelangelo (some figures are plainly sculptural) and Clovio are very clear. Yet it is clear that Franchi is a distinct master with his own mannerist (late Renaissance) style. His enormous sense of detail, the rich colour palette, the moving composition make this sheet exceptional.

The gouache is in beautiful condition.

Published: Michele Drascek and Simone Andreoni, *Cesare Franchi detto il Pollino*, The Marignoli di Montecorona Foundaion, Roma, 2020, Cat. nr 2, P. 30-31 and p.210-211.

Pen, Pencil and Gouache on a Gilted Background, 139 x 96mm

Circa: ca 1570

