

FRENCH SCHOOL, fifteenth century

Portrait of a Monk

oil on panel, 9 x 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins.

Provenance

Unknown. Acquired by Dr Clowes in 19

Exhibited

Ind., 1959, no.25

Attributed to Jean Fouquet by K.Perls and J.Pijoan (1946)⁽¹⁾, and by W.Friedlander (1948) and P.Wescher⁽²⁾ to the orbát of Fouquet⁽³⁾. The compiler concurs with the present labelling of the work.

Notes.

1. Docs. of Feb.16 and Mar.15, 1946 (Clowes archives). Perls suggested a date of around 1450.
2. Doc. of Dec.4, 1948 and undated expertise, Clowes archives. Friedlander suggested a date of around 1450-55, Wescher dated the work 1450-70.
3. The closest available comparison --one made already in Wescher's expertise (see n.2) -- is with the Head of a Monk in the Musée de Tours (L.Dimier, "Un Fouquet Inconnu", Gazette des "eaux Arts, 13, 1935, pp.76ff.). Sterling however noted that this was a fragment of a much large picture (La Peinture Française : Les Peintres du Moyen Age, Paris, 1942, répertoire et tables, pp.17f., no.3), and Ring observed that it was largely repainted (A Century of French Painting, 1400-1500, Pshaidon Press, 1949, p.214, no.137).