

JOHN MITCHELL

FINE PAINTINGS



Michel Bouillon (act. 1638 - 1674)

A tulip with narcissi, auriculae and other flowers in a glass vase

oil on copper,

signed and dated 1640,

37.5 x 28.5 cm.

Born in Tournai and master there in 1638, only a few works by Bouillon are identified with certainty. They range from small simple bouquets as seen in our work here, to very large fruit and flower compositions against architectural backgrounds. This exquisite work on a pristine copper sheet is unusual for being both signed and dated. The Northern French painter shows a debt to the contemporary Flemish master Daniel Seghers (1590-1661) in his treatment of the clear glass vase and naturally arranged bouquet contrasted against a dark background which has been thinly painted to allow the warm tonality of the copper support to show through.