Stephen Ongpin Fine Art



19th Century French School

An Elegant Woman Wearing a Fancy Hat: Portrait of Cléo de Mérode

Circa: c. 1900

Pastel.
Signed R. Ravin(?) in red chalk (over an earlier signature in pencil) at the lower right.
670 x 525 mm. (26 3/8 x 20 5/8 in.) [sight]

This large pastel is a portrait of the dancer Cléo de Mérode (1875-1966), a famous beauty who posed for several artists, including the painter Toulouse-Lautrec and the sculptor Alexandre Falguière. A photograph of Cléo de Mérode wearing the same feathered hat is known, used as an advertisement for cigarettes in England around in 1900.