

STEPHEN ONGPIN FINE ART



Philibert-Benoît DE LA RUE (Paris 1718 - Paris 1780)

Study for a Frontispiece or Monument, with Allegorical Figures Surrounding an Oval Portrait of a Young Woman

Pen and black ink, over an underdrawing in black chalk, with framing lines in black ink. Laid down.

Signed with the artist's monogram DLR and dated 1767 at the lower centre, on the pedestal.

200 x 130 mm. (7 7/8 x 5 1/8 in.)

The present sheet would appear to be a design for a monument in honour of a young woman, whose portrait is shown in an oval frame set on a pedestal, surmounted by angels and putti and flanked by, on the left, a male figure of Death and, at the right, an allegorical female figure with attributes that are, unfortunately, difficult to decipher. What appears to be the fragmentary ancient Greek marble statue known as the Belvedere torso appears the lower right.

Artist description:

The younger brother of the sculptor and engraver Louis-Félix de La Rue, Philibert-Benoît de La Rue was a pupil of Charles Parrocel. Agrée at the Académie Royale in 1754, he exhibited battle scenes, genre subjects, landscapes and portraits at the Salons.