A rare Elizabeth I painted panel fragment, probably West Country, circa 1570

Sold

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Height: 13.3 cm (5.2")

Width: 49.5 cm (19.5")

Depth: 1.5 cm (0.6")

Description

Designed with a mermaid holding a looking glass, a galleon with streaming red pennants partly visible in the mid-ground to her right.

Mermaids holding mirrors were symbols of vanity and temptation, playing on the lust of seamen to lure them to their deaths in imagery, the message was one of caution.