Henriette Wyeth, Mrs. N. C. Wyeth

Title

Portrait of Mrs. N. C. Wyeth

Medium

Oil on canvas

Date

1929

Dimensions

40 1/4 × 36 3/16 in. (102.2 × 91.9 cm)

Catalogue Number

96.1.270

Copyright

© artist, artist's estate, or other rights holders

Credit Line

Bequest of Carolyn Wyeth, 1996

Web Description

Henriette Wyeth’s talents as an artist were recognized as early as age sixteen when she began painting family members and receiving portrait commissions from prominent residents of Pennsylvania and Delaware. In this bold, beautifully designed depiction of her mother, Wyeth demonstrates her adoption of a Modernist decorative approach as well as her desire to express a connection with her subject. The artist lavishes attention on the textiles and clothing, particularly focusing on the silk turquoise lining of the fur coat that covers her mother’s chair. The rich floral background represents her mother’s love of flowers. Mrs. Wyeth’s serious expression seems in contrast to the exuberant color and textures, adding a touch of delicacy to the portrayal.