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CORNELIS DE HEEM

Leiden 1631 - 1695 Antwerp

*Still Life with Peach, grapes, plums and cherries in a pewter plate,
on a stone ledge.*

Oil on Canvas, 45 x 38 cm
Signed on the stone ledge: *C. De Heem*



- Provenance:* T.W. Ward, London (1935);
Christie's, London, 22 November 1935, no. 114;
W. Sabin;
Captain E.G. Spencer Churchill, Northwick Park (1963);
His sale, Christie's, London, 29 October 1965, lot 51, reproduced;
J. McGowan;
Sotheby's, London, 10 July 1974, lot 48, reproduced;
Sotheby's, New York, 11 June 1981, lot 32, reproduced;
Christie's, New York, 15 January 1988, lot 109, reproduced;
Norbert Pokutta, Munich (1988).
- Exhibited:* Centre International de Paris, *VII Biennale Internationale*, 3-20 October 1974,
p. 316m, reproduced;
*The Collector's Cabinet. Flemish Paintings from New England Private
Collections*, Worcester (Massachusetts), Worcester Art Museum, 1983/84,
pp.68-9, no.17, reproduced.
- Literature:* E.G. Spencer Churchill, *The Northwick Rescues 1912-1961*, 1961, p.6 no.13;
I.Bergström, *La Natura Morta Stranieri nelle Collezioni Privati Bergamaschi*,
1971, under no. 26;
Certificate Dr. Sam Segal, Amsterdam, 5 February 1991: confirming the
attribution to Cornelis de Heem.

De Heem's use of brilliant colors against a dark background successfully stresses the jewel-like quality and tangibility of the fruits in the foreground. The composition is thoughtfully contrived, with the red plum, for example, precariously balanced on the apricots on the right. This deliberate artificiality is typical of the direction still life painting took in the Netherlands during the second half of the seventeenth century.