

Lot 530 Marble figure “The Bride” by O. Andreon, Rome, 5 ft high on a carved dark marble pedestal

Current location unknown. Sold in the 1947 sale for £20.

‘O. Andreon’ was Orazio Andreoni an Italian 19th century sculptor based in Rome. The Spanish Bride was signed and dated 1888.

Anton Bantock reported that the white marble figure was sold for £20 in the sale and then vanished without trace. It reappeared when it was sold at a public auction by Sotheby’s on the 20th of November 1997 as Lot 97.



Orazio Andreoni
The Spanish bride, 1888–1888
Sale Date: November 20, 1997
Auction Closed

Image: courtesy of Sothebys.

We do not know when the sculpture was acquired. Greville and Emily travelled widely after their marriage in 1884. They had an 18 month honeymoon. Anton reported:

‘In Rome Emily was photographed in a fashionable studio, the print survives: a statuesque pose making the most of her lovely neck and shoulders, the expression cool, if not haughty.’

Maybe they visited the sculptor’s workshop, admired his work, and commissioned a piece which reflected their newly-wed status. We will never know.

The 1901 Inventory of Ashton Court Mansion includes a possible description of the figure in the Drawing Room (Long Gallery).

"Group of figures - The bride – Italian School".

In the 1915 Inventory it is described as '*The Bride*' and is in the Long Gallery.

The figure can be seen quite clearly in these images of the Long Gallery (c1927).



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