



LULLO | PAMPOULIDES

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PALERMO OR MESSINA

FRAME

18th century

Silver and gilt-copper

32 cm. high, overall

A virtually identical – albeit larger – frame in silver and gilt-copper can be found in the Minneapolis Institute of Art surrounding an oil on copper panel of *Madonna and Child with the Infant Saint John* dating from circa 1750 by Francesco de Mura (Fig. 1). While the name of the goldsmith in this instance has not been identified, frames and liturgical works of this type are known to have been made in the southern Italian cities of Palermo and Messina in the later 17th and early 18th centuries. In addition to the Minneapolis frame, compelling similarities can be drawn from the *Vase with Flowers* (Fig. 2) in Messina Cathedral dating to the first half 17th century that has a comparable ribbon and individually worked flowers, petals and leaves (see Palermo, Albergo dei Poveri, *Arti Decorative in Sicilia dal Rinascimento al Barocco*, M. C. Di Natale (ed.), 10 Dec. 2000-30 Apr. 2001, p. 417, no. 88)





Fig. 1 (L)

The painting: Francesco de Mura (1696-1783), *Madonna and Child with the Infant Saint John*, c.1750

The frame: Unknown goldsmith, 18th century

Oil on copper with silver, silver gilt and gilt-bronze The Minneapolis Institute of Art

Fig. 2 (R)

Messina, 17th century, *Vase with Flowers*

Gilt-copper, silver and silver gilt, Messina Cathedral