



18TH CENTURY FRENCH LOUIS XIII HANDWOVEN AUBUSSON PANEL TAPESTRY IN OAK FRAME

\$10,500

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This elegant antique tapestry was woven in Aubusson, France circa 1780, and was likely created as part of a larger wall boiseries paneling ensemble. Set in its original carved oak frame with recessed decorative corners, the large handwoven textile depicts King Louis XIII of France in discussion with his powerful prime minister, Cardinal Richelieu. Both figures are rendered with remarkable detail in elaborate 17th-century court dress, accompanied by noble companions in a stately garden setting. The woven scene is enclosed within a richly colored floral border in deep crimson, ivory, and gold, which beautifully enhances the central narrative. The tapestry has retained its vibrancy over centuries, displaying warm tones of blue, red, and cream that highlight the artistry of the Aubusson workshops. Celebrated since the 17th century and granted the title of "Royal Manufacture" under Louis XIV, Aubusson became renowned throughout Europe for producing some of the finest wall hangings, admired for their rich color, intricate weaving, and storytelling compositions. Louis XIII (1601–1643) was King of France from 1610 until his death, ascending the throne at the age of nine after the assassination of his father, Henry IV. His reign was marked by political intrigue and consolidation of royal authority, guided in large part by the influence of Cardinal Richelieu (1585–1642), his chief minister from 1624. Richelieu played a decisive role in strengthening the monarchy and France's position in Europe, and his legacy has endured as one of the most consequential statesmen of French history. This museum-worthy Aubusson tapestry, with its impressive scale, vibrant colors, and historical subject, makes a striking focal point for a mantel, grand salon, or library. A true one-of-a-kind piece of French decorative art. Measures: 58.5" W x 79.5" H