

Leonore in Red



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By the early 1920's MacRae had developed her own individual style with the judicious placement of objects and use of color in her figure paintings.

Painted in 1936 *Leonore in Red* is a classic MacRae with no adherence to formula so disliked by Edward Alden Jewell the art critic of the New York Sunday Times but rich in color and texture with a large color surface and shallow depth. MacRae includes in the composition objects to hand such as the chair also painted in *Distant News*, the bookshelf and a display of anemones with the red of Leonore's dress repeated in the books and anemones. By taking the paint back to an underpaint or even the gesso MacRae achieved a chalky mottled appearance enhancing the decorative qualities.

Leonore, the daughter of MacRae's friend Ivan O'Linsky, was also the sitter in MacRae's painting *Leonore in White*. *Leonore in Red* sometimes identified as the *Italian Girl* is not varnished. MacRae often mounted a canvas behind glass.

Exhibited:

- 1936 – Allied Artists of America, North Shore Arts Association, Grand Central Art Gallery
- 1937 – Boston Art Club, Corcoran BiAnnual
- 1938 – National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors, New Jersey State Museum, MacDowell Club
- 1939 – Grand Central Art Gallery
- 2008 – Cape Ann Museum

Leonore in Red
Oil on canvas on board Signed Framed
34" x 30"
Emma Fordyce MacRae 1887 – 1974

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