

SA1110885

Late 18th-Century French School, Portrait Of A Gentleman With A Cloak - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1110885

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 69 cm (27.2")

Width = 60 cm (23.6")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This enchanting late 18th-century French portrait depicts a debonair gentleman wearing a dark green coat, white necktie, and black cloak. Produced during a time of unparalleled political unrest in France, there's a certain air of intrigue surrounding this piece from circa 1795. It reminds us in several ways of Jacques-Louis David's (1748-1825) self-portrait from 1794, which he undertook while imprisoned for his revolutionary views. There's a shared intensity in the eyes coupled with an underlying sense of restlessness. It's also plausibly a self-portrait with the artist working from his reflection. The cloak is a particularly interesting addition as it's worn over the left shoulder only and could be seen as conveying a symbolic reference. Is he metaphorically concealing his subversive ideologies? Or is it simply an aesthetic tool to increase visual interest? "The questioning spirit is the rebellious spirit. A rebellion is always either a cloak to hide a prince or the swaddling wrapper of a new rule." Honoré de Balzac (1799- 1850). The portrait is signed indistinctly on the right and held in a splendid gilt frame, which is probably original. Medium: Oil on canvas Overa...

Seller Details

Brave Fine Art

21 Enterprise Way Arle Road Cheltenham Cotswolds GL51 8LZ
United Kingdom Under appointment only.

Tel: 01684 215986

International Tel: +44 1684 215986

