

SA1146627

Portrait of a Gentleman in
Scarlet Robes on a Porch
Holding Flowers c.1675;
Attributed to John Greenhill
(c.1642-1676), Oil on canvas

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1146627

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 142 cm (55.9")

Width = 117 cm (46.1")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This striking portrait was painted by one of the most talented artists working in England during the last half of the 17th century, John Greenhill. Greenhill was at the centre of the artistic scene in London and his achievements may have surpassed even that of Sir Peter Lely - England's dominant artist at the time - had his life not been cut short when he was barely in his thirties. In fact, George Vertue claimed that Lely was jealous of Greenhill's ability and that Greenhill was "the most excellent" painter. Painted during the reign of Charles II, the artist has depicted the sitter wearing a scarlet robe over white lace cravat and cuffs, seated before a classical column and a moody evening sky. One arm is resting on a ledge and in his hand he holds two flowers. The drapery, the splendid wig of brown curls, and the setting with classical column exude a sense of wealth and privilege, scarlet has long been associated with authority. The attire and style of coiffure help to date the painting to circa 1675. The composition is almost identical to a portrait of the first Professor of Chemistry at the University of Oxford, and the first keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, Rob...

Seller Details

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