

SA1153861

Portrait of a Gentleman in
Armour beside a Table with
Helmut c.1685; Follower of
Johann Kerseboom (d.1708),
Oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1153861

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 152 cm (59.8")

Width = 123 cm (48.4")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This portrait, painted circa 1685, formed part the Legh family collection at their magnificent home, Adlington Hall, where they lived for over 700 years. Adlington was built on the site of a Saxon hunting-lodge and became the home of the Legh family during the reign of Edward II. Through this portrait, collectors have a chance to acquire an evocative vestige from a glittering aristocratic way of life that is fast disappearing. This large-scale portrait depicts a gentleman in full armour of highly polished steel and a rapier and a helmet with a large plume by his side. It is intended to underline his heroic visage and wealth and status in society and is the archetypal portrait of a gentleman at a time when soldiering was a career. The manner in which portraits were painted was set out by the terms of the commission and usually marked significant life events such as a betrothal, a death, or career as is most likely the case here. It is datable to circa 1690 when the full bottomed wig with its loose curls was fashionable. He is most likely a member of the Legh family, as the portrait formed part of the Legh family collection of portraits. The ancient family of Legh s...

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