

SA1187061

Civic Portrait of a Gentleman in a Doublet beside a Table with a Clock, dated 1595; Circle of Frans Pourbus the Elder (1545–1581) Oil on panel painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1187061****Date of manufacture: 16th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 89 cm (35.0")

Width = 70 cm (27.6")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This rare late-sixteenth-century Flemish portrait is among the most complete survivals of Antwerp civic portraiture. Painted on panel and dated 1595, with the sitter's age inscribed as Ætatis LVI, it combines high quality, strong condition, legible heraldry, and a psychologically nuanced likeness. Few works of this kind preserve such a coherent ensemble of inscription, armorial identity, symbolic objects, and refined paint handling, making it significant within Northern Renaissance portraiture. The sitter, aged fifty-six (born c. 1539), is identified by the initials "V.D.S.V.D." and the coat of arms as a member of Antwerp's armigerous patriciate, most plausibly linked to the Van der Straeten family or an allied branch joined to a second Van D- lineage. This compressed use of initials reflects a common Flemish practice for compound surnames. Heraldic details support the connection: mantling in argent and gules (silver and red), colours associated with Van der Straeten arms, together with a darker crest element suggestive of an allied device—an assertion of lineage typical of Antwerp's merchant-magistrate class. His costume is sober but elite, datable to the mid-1590s: a ...

Seller Details

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