

SA1193763

Nicolas De Largillière (Circle), Portrait of Frédéric III De Saxe-Gotha-Altenbourg - Antique Oil Painting

Price

GBP 7,000

| USD \$9,472 | EUR 8,191

Item Reference: SA1193763**Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 99 cm (39.0")

Width = 83 cm (32.7")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This early 18th-century oil painting by an artist working in the circle of Nicolas De Largillière (1656-1746) depicts Frédéric III, Duke of Saxe-Gotha-Altenbourg (1699-1772), shown here in youth and splendour. Clad in ceremonial armour and wrapped in the scarlet of command, he gazes outward with the calm assurance of rank. The composition is based upon an original portrait by de Largillière, painted in Paris around 1720 when Frédéric was still a young prince. Largillière, the great portraitist of the French court, was renowned for translating nobility into light, combining regal formality with human warmth. His likeness of the prince became the official image of a dynasty eager to mirror the splendour of Versailles. This version, executed in France and likely within or near Largillière's studio, carries the hallmarks of a courtly copy - an image created for diplomatic or dynastic circulation. During this period, portraits such as these were far more than likenesses: they were envoys in paint, dispatched across Europe to affirm alliance, kinship, and legitimacy. In an age when correspondence moved slowly, a portrait could cross borders as their silent yet eloquent repres...

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