

**SA1200960**

## Mid-18th-Century Tuscan School, Portrait Of A Gentleman Holding A Letter - Antique Oil Painting

Price

**Sold****Item Reference: SA1200960****Date of manufacture: 1750**

Dimensions

Height = 97 cm (38.2")

Width = 79 cm (31.1")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

## Description

This eloquent mid-18th-century Italian portrait, painted in Tuscany around 1750, portrays an upstanding gentleman of intellect and composure. Acquired from a country house in Pescia, a prosperous silk town between Lucca and Florence, it evokes the cultivated restraint of Italy's Enlightenment age. Dressed in a fine ensemble consisting of a brown silk coat trimmed with gold brocade, a waistcoat woven with intricate floral arabesques, and a crisp white cravat - here's a gentleman who valued refinement. The fabrics glow softly in the painter's measured light. It's the costume of a Tuscan professional, perhaps a merchant, magistrate, or scholar. The warm palette, gentle modelling, and modest setting emphasise the intellect admired in the mid-century bourgeois ideal. The work belongs stylistically to the Tuscan-Emilian school, shaped by artists such as Giuseppe Bottani and Giuseppe Baldrighi, who combined northern naturalism with Italian grace. At its heart, this portrait is a study in 'virtù civile', the quiet heroism of reason. It celebrates a man who measures his worth not by lineage but moral steadiness. The stillness of his expression, the composure of his gesture, and...

Internal Ref: BRV2209

## Seller Details

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