

SA1228603

Mid-17th-Century German School, Portrait Of Gustavus Adolphus Meller Of Erdingen & Wildenstein - Antique Oil Painting

Price

GBP 2,800

| USD \$3,789 | EUR 3,276

Item Reference: SA1228603**Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 69 cm (27.2")

Width = 61 cm (24.0")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This striking mid-17th-century German oil painting depicts Gustavus Adolphus Meller (or Müller) of Erdingen and Wildenstein at the age of 36. An inscription identifies the sitter as "Junker Gust. Ad. Meller v. Erdingen v. Wildenstein. Anno Dom. 1654. AET. 36", preserving not only his name but also his rank and age. The inscription corresponds closely with documentary records associated with Schloss Wildenstein. The portrait belongs to a generation shaped by one of Europe's most turbulent periods. Gustavus Adolphus was born around 1618, the very year in which the Thirty Years' War began. Family records connect the Meller (or Müller) family with military service during that devastating conflict, while later documents place Gustavus Adolphus at Schloss Wildenstein, where he became associated with the estate during the 1650s. The sitter is dressed in a dark coat with a crisp white linen collar, while his appearance is defined by the elegantly groomed moustache and pointed beard fashionable among German noblemen during the period. His steady gaze and composed expression suggest a man of education and standing. Although the artist remains unidentified beyond the initials H.L...

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