

SA13760

**SOLD....Portrait of a Gentleman
c.1685; attributed to John
Closterman**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA13760

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in fine 17th c. carved and giltwood frame (almost certainly the original). An insightful portrait of a man of mature years, his eyes and features lively with intelligent good humour; a painting of great quality and charm. JOHN CLOSTERMAN (1660-1711) was born in Osnabruck, the son of an artist. His early training was from his father, but in 1679 he moved to Paris where for two years he studied under the portraitist Francois de Troy. In 1681 Closterman came to England and entered into partnership with the established portrait painter John Riley. By 1683 he had developed an independent practice; he was adept at baroque poses still with a slightly French influence, with rather flashily painted drapery - the floral velvet robe seen in this painting occurs in at least two other portraits painted at this time. His clients were mainly from the intellectual and professional middle classes, and included some of the leading writers, artists, musicians and physicians of the day. In the 1690's, as his reputation grew, he painted for more exalted and aristocratic patrons, like the Dukes of Somerset and Marlborough. He lived in great splendour in his house in Coven...

Internal Ref: 8400

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