

SA176562

SOLD....Portrait of a gentleman
of the Pett or Rolt family
c.1680; English School.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA176562

Date of manufacture: Before 1700

Description

Oil on canvas in carved and giltwood 17th c. frame. This charming naive portrait of a young gentleman and a warship poses some intriguing questions. It dates from the end of the 17th century as is shown by the gentleman's clothing and the style of the stern of the vessel. Painted on the stern, amongst the carved gilt 'gingerbreading', can be seen the coat of arms of the Rolt family. The sitter gestures towards a pair of shipbuilder's dividers, a globe in the background. The Pett family of Kent were famous shipbuilders for centuries and were cousins of the Rolt family of Bedfordshire, who were related to the Orlebars of Hinwick House, Bedfordshire. This portrait hung for many years at Hinwick, but its true date, sitter and the name of the ship of the line depicted were all lost, and curiously it was said in the Hinwick House guide that the ship was Sir Francis Drake's Golden Hind and that the sitter was Sir Peter Pett, Master Shipwright to Elizabeth I. There were four families of Petts involved with shipbuilding and sailing. In the 17th century it was said of the family that they were "so knit together that the Devil himself could not discover them". 'The Command of t...

Internal Ref: 8658

Seller Details

Roy Precious - Antiques & Fine Art

Wiltshire United Kingdom



Tel: 01249 815048 or 07710 222273

International Tel: +44 1249 815048 or +44 7710 222273