

SA193968

Portrait of a Gentleman in a Red Coat, 1717, by John Verelst.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA193968

Date of manufacture:

Description

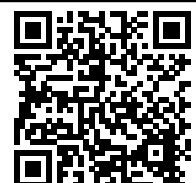
Oil on canvas in 18th century Neo-Classical frame. Signed and dated "Jon. Verelst/ P. 1717". The young man looks directly at the viewer with an air of consideration, his wig fashionably tied in a club. This is an excellent quality portrait with a real sense of the character of the sitter. This is the age of the 'Augustan' portrait (1690-1744) when the sitter expected to be 'elevated'...an expression of gravitas behind which was culture and intelligence. This was the English way...not for them the smiling, sometimes simpering, expressions painted by the French. Joseph Addison, famous essayist, poet, playwright and politician and a man of letters, sneeringly described French portraits as "very remarkable for their smiles and a certain smirking Air...bestowed indifferently on every Age and Degree of either sex. The Toujours Gai appeared even in Judges, Bishops and Privy Counsellors.." JOHN VERELST, also Jan or Johannes (1648-1734), was a Dutch Golden Age painter, working in England. He was the son of Pieter Hermansz Verelst and brother to Herman and Simon, all artists, along with other family members, Herman, Maria, Cornelis and William. SIZE: 37 x 31.5 inches inc. frame...

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