

SA208422

**OIL PORTRAIT PAINTING OF
A SWISS GUARD SOLDIER IN
ARMOUR WEARING 16TH
CENTURY DRESS 17.25 X 14.5
INCHES.**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA208422

Date of manufacture: 1850

Description

DESCRIPTION We are offering for sale this very well executed oil on canvas portrait of a SWISS GUARD , which is unsigned, but entitled verso on the edge of the canvas. **HISTORY OF THE SWISS GUARD** Swiss Guards are the Swiss soldiers who have served as bodyguards, ceremonial guards, and palace guards at foreign European courts since the late 15th century. Apart from household and guard units, regular Swiss mercenary regiments have served as line troops in various armies; notably those of France, Spain and Naples up to the 19th century (see Swiss Mercenaries). In contemporary usage, the name Swiss Guard generally refers to the Pontifical Swiss Guard of Holy See. Various units of Swiss Guards existed for hundreds of years. The earliest such unit was the Swiss Hundred Guard (Cent Suisses) at the French court (1497 – 1830). This small force was complemented in 1567 by a Swiss Guards regiment. The Papal Swiss Guard (now located in Vatican City), was founded in 1506 and is the only extant Swiss Guard. In the 18th and early 19th centuries several other Swiss Guards existed for periods in various European courts. The use of Swiss soldiers as Royal guards and as the Pontifical...

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