

SA232353

Portrait of a Lady as the
Goddess Diana c.1640; Circle
or Studio of Jan Mytens.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA232353

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in black and gilt frame, modern but of correct type. The young sitter is depicted in a landscape, dawn breaking to her left. This beautifully executed portrait captures the shimmering quality of the sitter's garments...the silk, fine linen and delicate gauze all complement the delicacy with which the girl's face is painted. The artist has expertly captured a sense of movement as the lady seems to move across the canvas, turning her head to regard the viewer. The sitter holds a bow, her hound by her side. The fashionably, and expensively, dressed young lady is depicted as Diana the Huntress, goddess of the hunt, moon and birthing. The celestial character of Diana is reflected in her connection with light, inaccessibility, purity and virginity; all desirable attributes for a girl who was on the marriage market. JAN MYTENS (Mijtens) (1614-1670) was a Dutch Golden Age artist, he worked in The Hague as a portrait painter for over thirty years painting those loyal to the House of Orange as well as a number of British visitors. His work was much admired and he was very influential in Dutch portraiture. MYTENS (MEYTENS, MYTENS): Dutch family of painters of Flem...

Internal Ref: 8765

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