

SA398445

Circle of Jan Steen, 1629 -
1679

Servants Merrymaking in a
Kitchen Interior

Price

GBP 4,500

| USD \$6,089 | EUR 5,265

Item Reference: SA398445

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Description

Circle of Jan Steen, 1629 - 1679 Servants Merrymaking in a Kitchen Interior oil on panel 16 x 20 in. (41 x 51 cm.) Jan Steen, in full Jan Havickszoon Steen (born c. 1626, Leiden, Netherlands—died February 3, 1679, Leiden), Dutch painter of genre, or everyday, scenes, often lively interiors bearing a moralizing theme. Steen is unique among leading 17th-century Dutch painters for his humour; he has often been compared to the French comic playwright Molière, his contemporary, and indeed both men treated life as a vast comedy of manners. Some of the artist's biblical and classical paintings such as Antony and Cleopatra (1667) may have been inspired by the contemporary stage. His portraits of rhetoricians, such as Rhetoricians at a Window (1658–65), attest to his interest in these groups of amateur actors. Steen was enrolled at the University of Leiden in 1646 and in 1648 was one of the founding members, along with Gabriel Metsu and others, of the Leiden painters' Guild of St. Luke. His early teachers seem to have been the historical painter Nicolaus Knupfer at Utrecht, genre and landscape painter Adriaen van Ostade at Haarlem, and the landscapist Jan van Goyen at The Hague....

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