

SA434692

Portrait of a Lady c.
1590-1610; Attributed to
Gortzius Geldorp.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA434692

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 62 cm (24.4")

Width = 56 cm (22.0")

Depth = 4 cm (1.6")

Description

Oil on oak panel, composed of three sections, now in a late 18th century gilt frame. This is a fine, sensitive portrait of a wealthy young woman, very expensively and fashionably dressed. The linen of her ruff is of such fine quality, and is so beautifully painted, that it almost seems lit from within. The identity of the sitter has been lost, but it is almost certainly a marriage portrait; the portrait of her husband is also on this website. Clothes and accessories were of enormous importance at this period. Often immense sums were spent on them, and sitters were justifiably proud and anxious to show them off. Their clothes and accessories also carried strong social connotations. The artist invests the portrait with a calm dignity, the beautifully painted face seems to glow with life. He subtly evokes the textures of her costume, underlining its costliness. Black was the high fashion of that era and the artist rises to the challenge of painting black on black to depict the subtleties of the garments. Beautifully moulded by light and colour, this portrait has the lively human presence of a young woman that reaches across four centuries. GORTZIUS GELDORP (1553–1618) was...

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