

SA434694

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

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA434694****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 gentleman, very expensively and fashionably dressed. The linen of his 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 his wife 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 quiet dignity, the beautifully painted face seems to glow with life. He subtly evokes the textures of the sitter's costume, underlining their 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 a strong human presence that reaches across four centuries.

GORTZIUS GELDORP (1553–1618) was a Flemish R...

Internal Ref: 8985

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