

SA436138

Portrait of a Gentleman 18th Century; Circle of Georg Desmarées (1697-1776)

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA436138****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 107 cm (42.1")

Width = 96 cm (37.8")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

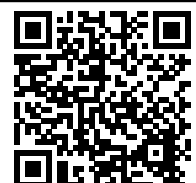
Description

Oil on canvas. An 18th century large scale portrait of Clemens August of Bavaria (1700-1761) as Grand Master of the Teutonic Order, a position he held from 1732 to 1761. The style and type of this portrait was popular in the 17th and 18th centuries as a form of propaganda to emphasise and glorify the sitter's importance. As one of the most important princes of the period, the subject has been portrayed with all the props one would associate with military grandeur, the armour, the sword, the plumed helmet and the baton of command. The sitters in these portraits were often placed in an outdoor setting with a military encampment or fields, as in the present example, in the background. The draftsmanship is very good as is the treatment of the armour and there is a good degree of realism. This is a marvellous show piece and the large scale is impressive and intended to impress. Clemens August (1700-1761) was a son of the Elector Max Emanuel of Bavaria (Governor General in the Spanish Netherlands) and Teresa Kunegunda Sobieska who was a daughter of Polish King John Sobieski. He was named Archbishop and Elector of Cologne in 1723. He was also elected Bishop of Münster, P...

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