

SA444573

Portrait of a Gentleman c.1630; Circle of Thomas de Keyser.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA444573****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 48 cm (18.9")

Width = 74 cm (29.1")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Oil on canvas in a gilt frame. Originally rectangular, this painting was converted to demi-lune; to judge by the frame in the late 18th or early 19th century...almost certainly to conform to a decorative scheme, perhaps it was placed over a doorway or fireplace. De Keyser and his Circle's portraits are full of character and masterly in handling, and often distinguished by a rich golden glow of colour and Rembrandtesque chiaroscuro, as this one. THOMAS DE KEYSER (c.1596-1667) born and died in Amsterdam. He excelled as a portrait painter, and was the most in-demand portrait painter in the Netherlands until the 1630s, when Rembrandt eclipsed him in popularity. Rembrandt was influenced by his work, and many of de Keyser's paintings were later falsely attributed to Rembrandt. Some of his portraits are life-size, but the artist generally preferred to keep them on a considerably smaller scale, like the famous Four Amsterdam burgomasters assembled to receive Marie de Medici in 1638, now on display at the Mauritshuis museum in The Hague. In addition to portraits, he also executed some historical and mythological pictures, such as the Theseus and Ariadne in the Amsterdam town hall.

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