

SA460130

Portrait of a Gentleman 1690; Attributed to Michiel van Musscher.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA460130****Date of manufacture: Before 1700**

Dimensions

Height = 67 cm (26.4")

Width = 58 cm (22.8")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

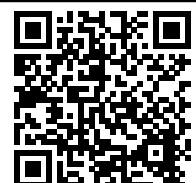
Small oil on canvas in a carved and giltwood frame. The fine quality frame was expensively restored and regilded by the previous owner, using both oil gilding and water gilding for different colour areas. Dated 1690 and indistinctly signed centre right. The fashionable and expensively dressed sitter looks confidently out of the frame as if surveying his extensive lands. The open book signifies that he is an intellectual. His luxurious wig (from which fashion came the expression 'big-wig' for someone important), his silks, his costly table carpet, the very expensive Indian tea gown and particularly his pose, all make this the archetypal Baroque portrait. The pose and treatment of the material are typical of van Musscher. This type of portrait was usually on a larger scale e.g. 50 x 40 inches; the fact that this is 'in small' suggests that it was for the 'cabinet'...the intimate room for favoured possessions that was so fashionable during the Baroque period. Perhaps painted for a wife or lover? MICHEL VAN MUSSCHER (1645 – 1705) was a Dutch Golden Age painter. was born in Rotterdam in January 1645 and was later baptized on 27 January. According to Houbraken, he showed...

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