

SA516553

Portrait of a Gentleman c.1680: Circle of John Michael Wright.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA516553****Date of manufacture: Before 1700**

Dimensions

Height = 110 cm (43.3")

Width = 92 cm (36.2")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

Oil on canvas in a period frame. (damaged areas to frame). This insightful portrait is typical of Wright's manner; a realistic and penetrating image of the sitter who, in a relaxed pose, looks out at us with an expression of determination and confidence. JOHN MICHAEL WRIGHT (May 1617 - July 1694) Described variously as English and Scottish, Wright trained in Edinburgh under the Scots painter George Jamesone, and acquired a considerable reputation as an artist and scholar during a long sojourn in Rome. There he was admitted to the Accademia di San Luca. He took up permanent residence in England from 1656, and served as Court Painter before and after the English Restoration. A convert to Roman Catholicism, he was a favourite of the restored Stuart court, a client of both Charles II and James II. In the final years of the Stuart monarchy he returned to Rome. Wright is currently rated as one of the leading indigenous British painters of his generation, largely for the distinctive realism in his portraiture. Perhaps due to the unusually cosmopolitan nature of his experience, he was favoured by patrons at the highest level of society in an age in which foreign artists were u...

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