

SA531181

**Portrait of a Gentleman c.1620;
Studio of Michiel Jansz van
Mierevelt (1567-1641)**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA531181

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 67 cm (26.4")

Width = 57 cm (22.4")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This exquisite portrait depicts a gentleman wearing an elaborate lace collar and slashed satin coat. Painted circa 1620 it is a fine example in its description of the sitter's character and the careful reproduction of the face and fabrics. The extraordinary costume with its shimmering quality and costly fabric is of the highest quality and de rigueur for the upper class. This is indicative of the sitter's wealth and speaks of the status of this gentleman. The demand for portraits in the Netherlands and England was great in the 17th century and this portrait is a characteristic work by the painter Michiel Jansz van Mierevelt who was both extremely skilled and business minded. He was the most productive and successful portraitist in Delft and apart from the many Dutch patrons, English clientele were also very keen. English ambassadors, governors and supreme commanders who were stationed in the Netherlands also travelled to Delft to sit for him and it was not uncommon for them to order several copies to give to friends, relatives and their children when they setup home for themselves. Three times Van Mierevelt rejected prestigious offers to become court-painter, twi...

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