

SA661891

**Portrait of a Gentleman c.1680;
Circle of Nicholas de Largillierre
(1656-1746)**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA661891

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 96 cm (37.8")

Width = 83 cm (32.7")

Depth = 9 cm (3.5")

Description

*An opportunity to purchase an item with a long and interesting provenance. This work formed part of a collection of pictures from the antiquaire André Coltée Ducarel (1713-1785). It descended through the Coltée Ducarel family the Palmer Baronets for over 300 years. This half-length portrait depicts a gentleman believed to be an ancestor of André Coltée Ducarel (1713-1785). The sitter is wearing a Japanese rok which was a type of banyan of rich brocaded silk, a crisp white lace cravat and silk bows. These garments were at the height of fashion in 1680s France. The banyan was commonly worn indoors (sometimes called an Indian or Persian gown due to their Eastern origin and Oriental cut) when visitors were met. Although very comfortable they were highly respectable and quite splendid (often made from brocades, velvets and silks, with elegant masses of fabric protecting against the cold or draughts). These garments and the full bottomed wig would have cost a fortune. The popularity of wigs was immense and this intensified the demand for them so much that natural hair became a valued commodity. Dealers in hair arose in all quarters and there are accounts in France th...

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