

SA740

SOLD...Portrait of a Lady
c.1665; by Jacob Huysmans
and Studio

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA740

Date of manufacture:

Description

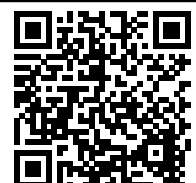
Portrait of a Lady c.1665 by Jacob Huysmans and his Studio, in carved and giltwood frame. Jacob Huysmans (c.1633-c.1696) was born in Antwerp and came to England after the Restoration. By 1664 he was Court Painter to Catherine of Braganza (Queen to Charles II). Painting mainly for the Catholic Queen and her Ladies-in-Waiting, Huysmans employed Continental Baroque conventions (cherubs, lambs etc). In this portrait, whilst cherubs acclaim the youth and beauty of the sitter, she rests her elbow on a skull - the classic Baroque 'Memento Mori' - and ignores her jewels. The message of the painting being that youth, beauty and wealth are all transient and one should never forget the spiritual aspects of life. The pose of head on hand was long associated with piety, contemplation and learning as well as fashionable melancholia. It also draws on the iconography of Mary Magdalen, as the saint was often depicted in this pose as she pondered on her transition from the pleasures of the flesh to a spiritual life. (There was a fashion in the 1660's and 1670's for elegant Court ladies to be depicted as saints). The sitter's hair has been let down from the formal ringlets then in vog...

Internal Ref: 8251

Seller Details

Roy Precious - Antiques & Fine Art

Wiltshire United Kingdom



Tel: 01249 815048 or 07710 222273

International Tel: +44 1249 815048 or +44 7710 222273