

SA752067

Portrait of a Lady circa 1620; Attributed to Michiel Jansz van Mierevelt (1567-1641)

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA752067****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 79 cm (31.1")

Width = 66 cm (26.0")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This exquisite oil on panel portrait of a woman, likely a citizen of Delft, is a sublime example of the 17th century Dutch Golden Age portrait. During this period the Dutch mercantile class and magistrates, conscious of outward displays of frivolity and wealth, dressed themselves in black. However, ironically, this was the costliest colour available for dying clothes. Black was far from boring and there were a multitude of difference fabrics and accoutrements during the period. As such artists went to great depths to depict the subtle nuances of the colour and the fabrics and textures and how they reflected the light. This was often carried out to an exactness producing results that were often stupendous. One of the main proponents, and the most fashionable portraitist of the day, was Michiel van Mierevelt, whose work was consistent in quality and in the careful reproduction of faces and the exquisite rendering of costumes and fabrics. In the present example the patron is wearing the style of clothing that was fashionable in Holland around 1620. The sheen and pattern on the silk damask is effortlessly portrayed to give a sense of substance and movement. This type...

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