

SA753644

Portrait of a Young Gentleman c.1660; Attributed to John Greenhill.

Price

GBP 8,950

| USD \$12,111 | EUR 10,472

Item Reference: SA753644**Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 117 cm (46.1")

Width = 99 cm (39.0")

Depth = 8 cm (3.1")

Description

Oil on canvas now in a 19th century gilt frame in 18th century style. The handsome young sitter wears his own hair; the periwig was just coming into fashion and not all the gentry wore them at first. His cravat looks to be of Bruges lace .. very costly, and a la mode. He also wears, wrapped around him, an Indian silk tea gown; these were also highly fashionable and hugely expensive. So much so that, for his portrait, Samuel Pepys hired one, as he couldn't afford to buy. The young gentleman stands in the classic and much favoured elegant pose, his elbow rests on the plinth of a huge column; this was not just an artistic conceit, but symbolic. The column represents the sitter in that he is the pillar of his House or family; clearly he was the one who was, or soon to become, the head of the family. JOHN GREENHILL (c.1642-1676), was an English born portrait painter whose initial training is unknown but who rivalled the leading London artists of the seventeenth century. The Restoration of King Charles II (1630-85) stimulated an upheaval within the cultural sphere, in particular artistic patronage. Portrait painters such as Sir Peter Lely quickly found favour amongst the high...

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