

SA78366

**SOLD....Portrait of a Gentleman
of the Weaver family,
c.1590-1610, British School.**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA78366

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas. To the left the coat of arms of the Weaver family, dated by the College of Arms as those in use from 1568 to 1635. To the right, the number 28, almost certainly the age of the sitter. The portrait sits within a good, distressed, black and gilt 'cassetta' frame. This charming naïve portrait would have been painted by an itinerant painter moving from town to town. Self taught, they made portraits of the local gentry, and also painted inn signs. Elizabethan and Jacobean 'primitive' portraits are very rare indeed as few have survived; they have a real directness and sense of period, as well as being highly decorative. In all Elizabethan portraiture, including that of the Court, the image was always iconic, symbolising power, wealth and lineage and all these factors are present in this limner painting. The family's heraldry is proudly emblazoned to the left and the sitter's expensive clothing and sword and dagger are shown whilst he holds his gloves in his right hand. Weapons show that this is a gentleman, legally entitled to bear arms, and the gloves were a very expensive item and very important in Elizabethan upper class society being used as gifts, love to...

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