

SA810550

Portrait of the Countess de Montdidier Holding a Jewelled Mirror c.1672; Attributed to Henri Gascars (1635-1701) Oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA810550

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 114 cm (44.9")

Width = 93 cm (36.6")

Depth = 8.5 cm (3.3")

Description

This lavish portrait, painted circa 1680 by Henri Gascars, depicts the Countess of Montdidier who was a member of the French noble house of Montdidier (later Dammartin and Roucy). The countess wears a white dress and a Romanesque corset. Roman attire was popular in portraits around this time, influenced by the theatre and masquerade, but also because it elevated a sitter's importance, and provided a sense of timelessness in a world where fashions changed quickly. The refined treatment of the drapery and the elegance of gesture with which the sitter holds the mirror is entirely French and typically of Henri Gascar's oeuvre. His continental style is shown to advantage in what the poet, painter and historian Bainbrigg Buckeridge termed his ability to paint "Embroidery, fine Cloaths, lac'd Drapery, and a great Variety of Trumpery Ornament". Gascars' paintings also contain rich colouring and exude a sense of theatricality and he used many accessories, here the sitter holds a bejewelled mirror. His playful style was immediately popular with the British and was a well-received break from the more sombre formality of the mainly Dutch court painters. It is no wonder why the ...

Seller Details

Titan Fine Art

London United Kingdom

Tel: 07875 412 111

International Tel: +44 7875 412 111

