

SA945736

Portrait of a Lady in a Green Silk Dress c.1710; Circle of Michael Dahl (1657-1743), Antique oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA945736

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 102 cm (40.2")

Width = 89 cm (35.0")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

The portrait genre was valued particularly highly in English society. Neither landscapes nor allegorical pictures were ever priced so highly at exhibitions and in the trade as depictions of people, from the highest aristocracy to scholars, writers, poets and statesmen. Michael Dahl was a famous and fashionable portraitist who by 1700 became the most successful painter in England, second only to Godfrey Kneller. By the late 1600s, England was actively trading with Asia, as this portrait reveals. In this striking portrait the sitter wears a loose-fitting dress called an open robe that was introduced from Asia in the 1670s during the reign of King Charles II. The style became the fashion choice for informal portraiture for more than a hundred years. Characteristic of Dahl, especially in the 1690s and early 1700s, is his interesting use of colour, sometimes in unexpected shades - there are many examples of green drapery in Dahl's work. Here, the fresh, pale emerald green of the gown provides a strong decorative contrast with her crimson wrap. The lively handling of the drapery and the colour combination are used with great effect. Michael Dahl (1659-1743) was born in S...

Seller Details

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