

SA971917

Piet Verhaert, The Card Players - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA971917****Date of manufacture: 1890**

Dimensions

Height = 59 cm (23.2")

Width = 70 cm (27.6")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This late 19th-century oil painting by Belgian artist Piet Verhaert (1852-1908) depicts three 18th-century gentlemen within a tavern interior. Smartly attired yet slightly dishevelled, these old friends gather for another game of cards. Relaxing around a square table under a 17th-century seascape, they exchange stories and quaff the finest liquor. The details are exquisite and rendered with masterful draughtsmanship. Verhaert was born in the wrong century. In his early thirties, he lived in Spain and made numerous copies after Diego Velázquez. Inspired by the bravado of the Baroque, his life became one of excess and exuberance. Together with his close friends, Jan van Beers, Alexander Struys and Jef Lambeaux, he was an integral part of a group known as the 'Van Beers Clique'. These eccentric young artists became known for their mischief and often wandered around Antwerp in historical clothing. Are they depicted here perhaps? It's a tempting notion, especially as the scenes were usually painted from life with models in situ. The chap on the right bears some resemblance to a beardless Struys and perhaps that's Lambeaux in the middle. In this interior from yesteryear, Ve...

Seller Details

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