

Art Market

11 Art Historical Treasures to See at TEFAF Maastricht

By Casey Lesser
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Artemisia Gentileschi, *Portrait of a Gentleman (Antoine De Ville?)*, ca. 1630–35

Robilant + Voena, Stand 380



Artemisia Gentileschi, *Portrait of a Gentleman (Antoine De Ville)*, 1630-35.



Detail of Artemisia Gentileschi, *Portrait of a Gentleman (Antoine De Ville)*, 1630-35.

Though the Italian Renaissance artist is renowned for biblical and mythological scenes, Gentileschi was also a deft portrait painter, evidenced by this impressive full-length portrait (priced from \$3–4 million) that would have been a rare,

private commission. The subject, believed to be French military engineer Antoine De Ville, wears the fine, flamboyant fashion of his day, including billowing sleeves with slashes cut into them and a Venetian-style lace collar and cuffs—all of which are treated with the artist’s exceptional flair for detail. The pendants that hang from De Ville’s neck are inscribed with the artist’s signature (the initials A.G.), and, tellingly, fall above his heart, suggesting she may have been quite close to him. His pose is intriguing, too. Gentileschi imbued her subject with virility, one hand pointing down to his manhood, but also a hint of weakness, exemplified by how his right hand flails outward. “She’s sort of subverting the idea of the strong man,” said gallery director Benedict Tomlinson. “She was always doing something slightly out of the ordinary.”

Read the full article here: <https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-11-art-historical-treasures-tefaf-maastricht>