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## Florentine Painter Of The 17th Century, Portrait Of Giovanni Di Antonio Caligiani



4 000 EUR

Signature : Peintre florentin du XVIIe siècle

Period : 17th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Oil painting

Width : 99 cm.

Height : 135 cm.

### Description

Florentine Painter of the 17th Century

Portrait of Giovanni di Antonio Caligiani  
oil on canvas, cm. 135x99

The painting portrays Giovanni di Antonio Caligiani, a member of an ancient Florentine family, dressed in vivid red robes that highlight his status and public dignity. The attire, with a headpiece and a cloak with wide sleeves lined with light fur, is typical of certain civil magistracies or important public offices in 17th-century Florence; at the same time, the red could evoke significant functions (not necessarily ecclesiastical, but institutional or consultative). The figure is represented in half-length, turned three-quarters towards the viewer, with a firm and

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serious gaze, almost as if to assert his authority.

At the bottom left, on the dark background, the coat of arms of the Caligiani family stands out, a heraldic symbol that helps identify the subject and confirm his belonging to a prestigious lineage in the Florentine nobility. The neutral and dark background focuses attention on the portrait, highlighting the details of the attire and the facial features. The brushstroke appears quite compact and smooth, especially in the rendering of the facial and hand details, while the red fabric is treated with skillful plays of light and shadow that create soft folds and well-defined volumes.

Giovanni di Antonio Caligiani was born in Florence on November 28, 1404, the son of Antonio di Iacopo and Taddea di Piero degli Albizzi. He became one of the main advisors to Cosimo and Lorenzo de' Medici and played a prominent role in Florentine public life from 1430 until his death. He held numerous institutional positions: prior and gonfalonier of justice, podestà in Città di Castello, vicar of Valdelsa, captain in Volterra and Poppi, podestà in Pistoia, vicar in Valdivievole. In 1464, he was sent to Rome as an ambassador of the city of Florence to congratulate Paul II on his election to the papacy. On this occasion, the pope knighted him, and thanks to the increased prestige that this honor conferred upon him, he was occupied for the rest of his life with important embassies on behalf of the Florentine Republic.

The work, restored and in generally good condition, fully belongs to the tradition of Florentine portraiture of the 17th century, where the celebratory intent combines with a marked naturalism.