



DECORATIVE ARTS FROM 1880 (A419)

Tue, 10th Jan 2012

Viewing: 10JAN12 - STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET - BAND

Lot 406

Estimate: £2000 - £3000 + Fees

▲ Michael Ayrton (1921-1975)

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PORTRAIT OF A YOUNG MAN, HALF LENGTH, IN A DRESSING GOWN AND WEARING A SIGNET RING, BY A WINDOW, WITH HOUSES BEHIND, POSSIBLY A SELF PORTRAIT,

Signed and dated t.r. 'April 43', oil on board
41 x 33cm, unframed

Ayrton spent time in Paris where, in 1939, he shared a studio with John Minton. Later in life, on Henry Moore's advice, he became a proficient sculptor.

Ayrton was first associated with the English Neo-Romantic movement and was influenced by the style of Henry Moore and Graham Sutherland.

At the age of 18 he was commissioned to design the sets and costumes for Gielgud's Macbeth and, from 1942 until 1944, he taught drawing and stage design at the Camberwell School of Art.

He worked as an artist, teacher, writer, art critic, stage designer and illustrator, and in the 1940s and 50s he visited Italy and Greece several times, where he was influenced by the Italian Quattrocento and also by the myths of Icarus, Daedalus and the Minotaur, all of which became central themes in his work.

He lived most of his life in Toppesfield, Essex.

Condition Report

This lot does not have a condition report, if you would like further information, please click the 'Request A Condition Report' button below.