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The best of TEFAF Maastricht 2018 – part one

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Hippocampus (c. 1880), Hermann Ratzersdorfer

***An unknown Danish Nobleman*, c. 1610–14, Pieter Isaacsz**
Weiss Gallery, £275,000

It is tempting to presume that this anonymous sitter was a high-ranking officer in Denmark's first conscripted army to be led by Danish officers, for in this newly discovered portrait it is the military regalia that steals the show. The Danish-born, Amsterdam-trained Isaacsz has taken great care with this lavishly embroidered silk sash and gold-embellished Italian rapier and dagger. As well as being court painter to Christian IV, and an art agent, he appears to have worked as a spy for the Swedes before dying of plague in Elsinore.



An unknown Danish Nobleman (c. 1610–14), Pieter Isaacz