

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Self-Portrait

Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (Spanish, 1617–1682)

Date ca. 1650–55

Medium Oil on canvas

Dimensions 42 1/8 x 30 1/2 in. (107 x 77.5 cm)

Credit Line Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Frick II, 2014

Accession Number 2014.1.01

Currently On View

First Floor, Room 19, South Hall

Commentary Painted when he was in his mid-thirties, Murillo's first self-portrait shows him as an upper-class Spaniard, sporting an elegant black outfit with a golilla (a stiff white collar, typical of Spanish fashion). It was probably a private work, painted for his own family. The image of the artist is set in a fictive stone block, chipped and battered by time, that rests on a stone ledge in a realistic manner. The Latin inscription at the bottom of the canvas, describing Murillo as a famous painter and providing biographical information—including the wrong birthdate of 1618—was added to the painting after his death.