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LANNOO, 2016. Paperback. Condition: NEUF. Apart from a handful of art historians no sane person has ever heard of the Brussels painter Hendrick De Clerck (1560-1630). Nevertheless, De Clerck was a contemporary of Peter Paul Rubens and like Rubens he worked for the Archdukes Albert and Isabella. But while Rubens has gone down in history as an artistic trailblazer and painting powerhouse, Hendrick De Clerck has quietly faded into oblivion. Yet the subtly coded, vibrantly coloured pictures that De Clerck paints for Albert and Isabella are political propaganda of the highest order. In creating a mode of archducal representation that could help to gain an empire, the sky is quite literally the limit. De Clerck represents Isabella as wise Minerva, chaste Diana, the Virgin Mary. And that's nothing compared to her husband, for in De Clerck's paintings Albert is transformed into the sun god Apollo or even into Jesus Christ himself. Hendrick De Clerck's mastery of ingenious pictorial strategy made him a leading player in one of the most ambitious projects history has ever seen. For those who know how to read them, his paintings tell a story of power, political promises, and grandiose ambition. Most of all, they are supreme examples of image-building. For as the Archdukes were well aware, even as a monarch you're only as important as you make yourself. - Nombre de page(s): 416 - Poids: 2967g - Genre: Universitaire, ouvrages de références, Essais, Livres en langue étrangère.



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