

SA1008728

Portrait of Colonel Richard Lister (1628-1704) Wearing Armour and Holding a Baton c.1690; Studio of Sir Godfrey Kneller Bt. (1646-1723), Oil on canvas

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1008728

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 145 cm (57.1")

Width = 121 cm (47.6")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This exquisite work formed part of the collection of the Gregory family, descendants of the sitter, at their immensely impressive home Harlaxton Manor, Grantham. Our portrait, and the contents of the manor, were sold in 1937 following the death of Thomas Sherwin Pearson-Gregory, the last of the family to reside at the manor. The sitter is Colonel Richard Lister of Thorpe Arnold (1628-1704). Depicted standing in a romantic landscape wearing suit of armour, a full-bottomed wig, he is shown with such symbols of power and office - the baton of command is a symbol of military authority, for the sitter was Colonel of the Regiment of Foot in the Trained Bands of Leicestershire. The sumptuous flowing red sash fringed with gold and the ensuing battle in the background imbues the portrait with a sense of movement and drama. His heroic visage suitably reflects his wealth and status and the martial, almost imperial, image of the sitter is an interesting characterisation and was popular at the time. The portrait is datable to circa 1690 when the full bottomed wig with its loose curls was fashionable. The Lyster family has origins of great antiquity in the Yorkshire and neighbou...

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