

SA1030784

Portrait of Lady Henrietta
Louisa Fermor nee Jeffreys,
Countess of Pomfret c.1742;
Attributed to Thomas Bardwell
(1704-1767), oil on canvas
painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1030784****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 120 cm (47.2")

Width = 102 cm (40.2")

Depth = 10 cm (3.9")

Description

The sitter in this luxurious portrait is Henrietta Jeffreys; she was an early 'blue-stocking', a keen writer and traveller, biographer of van Dyck, and friend of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu and Lady Hertford. She has been depicted wearing an azure blue velvet dress with white fur lining, over a rich golden brocaded bodice and white lace edged smock. The attire and the red swag curtain afford the portrait a theatricality (the clothing is perhaps masquerade attire). The drapery has been defined with lightness and dexterity - the treatment of the lace is superb. Its remarkable quality is evidenced by the fact that it was painted by the proficient English painter Thomas Bardwell, who is known to have painted the sitter on more than one occasion (see photo). Bardwell was described as "through the power of genius and dint of application, acquired a degree of perfection in his art". He wrote a book in 1756 (which enjoyed great popularity and repeated editions after his death) entitled "The Practice of Painting and Perspective Made Easy". Remarkably, he was granted a Crown copyright for his book, which gave him the sole rights - a practise that was highly exceptional in the ei...

Seller Details

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