

SA110351

SOLD....Portrait of Elizabeth Butler, Countess of Chesterfield(?) c.1660; Circle of Lely.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA110351

Date of manufacture: Before 1700

Description

Oil on canvas, mounted on board, in giltwood frame. Thought to be Elizabeth Butler, Countess of Chesterfield, this is an attractive portrait of an attractive young woman of the Restoration period. Certainly the sitter does bear a resemblance to Elizabeth Butler as depicted by Lely in a three-quarter length portrait owned by the Chevening Trust. ELIZABETH BUTLER, COUNTESS OF CHESTERFIELD (29 June 1640/1 – July 1665) Lady Elizabeth was born at Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny, Ireland on 29 June 1640, the eldest daughter of James Butler, 1st Duke of Ormonde and Lady Elizabeth Preston. She married Philip Stanhope, Earl of Chesterfield some time before 25 September 1660. He was one of the lovers of the notorious Barbara Villiers, mistress of King Charles II of England. There were many at court who believed Barbara's first child, Anne, bore a strong resemblance to Chesterfield. His first wife was Lady Anne Percy, daughter of Algernon Percy, 10th Earl of Northumberland; however, she had died on 29 November 1654 without having produced surviving children. Together Elizabeth and Chesterfield had one daughter, Lady Elizabeth Stanhope, later Countess of Strathmore, although the child's...

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