

SA1104337

18th-Century English School, Portrait Of Spencer Compton, Earl Of Wilmington - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1104337****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 27 cm (10.6")

Width = 21 cm (8.3")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

This mid-18th-century English oil painting depicts Spencer Compton, 1st Earl of Wilmington (1673/1674-1743), wearing the red sash and star of the Order of the Bath. Compton was the son of James Compton, 3rd Earl of Northampton, and his second wife Mary. Following his studies at St Paul's School, the Middle Temple and Trinity College, Oxford, Compton turned to politics and held several parliamentary roles. In 1715, he was appointed as speaker of the House of Commons, a position he held for 12 years, before progressing to lord president of the Council and, for a short time, prime minister. He represented Eye in Suffolk as an MP. It's fair to say that his career advancements were predominantly the result of his close ties with influential figures rather than his skill as an orator. It's said that he had a keen interest in parliamentary processes. As an associate of the infamous 'Kit-cat Club', an influential group of Whigs who met at the Trumpet Tavern in London, he sat for Sir Godfrey Kneller's 'Kit-cat' portrait, which is currently housed in the National Portrait Gallery. Several portraits of Spencer Compton have been attributed to the circle of Kneller since that date...

Seller Details

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