

SA1104716

c.1675 Portrait of a Lady in a Blue Gown Holding a Sheer Scarf; Studio of Sir Godfrey Kneller (1646-1723), Oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1104716

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 93 cm (36.6")

Width = 80 cm (31.5")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This captivating portrait by the leading late seventeenth and early eighteenth-century court artist, Sir Godfrey Kneller, shows Kneller's delicate and intimate approach to his female faces, and is very like his individual portrait drawings with their emphasis on sharp features and alluring eyes. The sitter is unencumbered by high fashion or a background of stately topography. The emphasis is instead placed directly on the alluring femininity, and enhanced by the loose drapery and falling hair around her shoulder. Over a white smock with voluminous sleeves, the sitter is wearing a cobalt blue silk gown with slashed sleeves held with huge diamond clasps and pearl clasps on the bodice. At her breast she holds the gauze scarf that has been draped around her left shoulder. The hairstyle, known as the hurluberlu, first appeared around 1671. In the celebrated letters of Madame de Sévigné she accounted "Now just imagine the hair parted peasant fashion to within two inches of the back roll; the hair each side is cut in layers and made into round loose curls which hang about an inch below the ear; it looks very young and pretty - two bouquets of hair on each side... a large cur...

Seller Details

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