

SA1109754

Portrait of a Lady, Abigail
Countess of Kinnoull Signed &
Dated by Godfrey Kneller
(1646-1723), oil on canvas
painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1109754

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 145 cm (57.1")

Width = 120 cm (47.2")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This elegant and beautiful portrait depicts Abigail Hay, Lady Dupplin, Countess of Kinnoull; it is an excellent example of English portraiture from the first quarter of the seventeenth century. Signed by Godfrey Kneller and (indistinctly) dated, the work is beautifully composed, with the sitter three-quarter length and seated on a porch beside a crown on a ledge. She is wearing peeress's robes - a scarlet ermine trimmed robe and a luxurious silver dress with gold thread. It is the archetypal example of portrait what the titled class in England wanted; the format was reproduced many times by Kneller and his contemporaries and these portraits lined the walls of many great halls in stately manors throughout the Britain. Born Lady Abigail Harley, she was the youngest daughter of Robert Harley, 1st earl of Oxford, (1661-1724), chancellor of the Exchequer and Lord Treasurer to Queen Anne, and Elizabeth Foley (died 1691). On 11th August 1709 she married George Henry Hay, 8th Earl of Kinnoull (1689-1758), styled as Viscount Dupplin from 1709 to 1719. Her husband had come under the wing of her father, whose position was equal to that of prime minister. This led to Hay's se...

Seller Details

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