

SA1168292

Portrait of a Lady, Elizabeth Fane, Countess Westmoreland in Silver Dress c.1667; Circle of John Michael Wright (1617-94), Oil on canvas painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1168292

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 92 cm (36.2")

Width = 79 cm (31.1")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

In this touching composition, painted around the time of London's Great Fire in 1666, a young woman has been depicted wearing a silver dress and gauzy scarf held in a place by a rope of pearls and a large diamond brooch. At first, the image seems like a straightforward one, but it in fact it carries aesthetic and allegorical illusions, and their meaning would have been immediately recognised by a contemporary audience. The subject is said to be Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Charles Nodes of Shephalbury, Hertfordshire. She was born on 1 August 1648. She married Charles Fane, 3rd Earl of Westmorland (1635-1691), in 1665, the year he succeeded to the Earldom; she then became styled as Countess of Westmorland. The family seat was Apethorpe Hall. Charles was the eldest son of Mildmay Fane, 2nd Earl of Westmorland and his first wife Grace Thornhurst. He was an English peer and twice Member of Parliament for Peterborough. Though apparently an opponent of James II in 1684, he refused to take up arms against the King the year after. He died at the age of 56 and was buried at Apethorpe Hall. Elizabeth died sometime after 1667. The 'head on hand' pose was long depicted ...

Seller Details

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