

SA1232223

Portrait of a Lady, possibly
Elizabeth Percy, Countess of
Essex (1636–1718)
c.1660-1665; Studio of Sir
Peter Lely (1618–1680), Oil on
canvas painting

Price

GBP 15,850

| USD \$21,610 | EUR 18,495

Item Reference: SA1232223**Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 140.5 cm (55.3")

Width = 118.5 cm (46.7")

Depth = 8 cm (3.1")

Description

This portrait is a refined and atmospheric example of Restoration portraiture from the studio of Sir Peter Lely, preserved in notably good condition with luminous flesh tones and richly handled drapery. It depicts a young aristocratic woman seated beside a classical bust, her figure enveloped in shimmering satin. The serene expression, poised posture and elegant composition reflect the sophisticated visual language that dominated English portraiture in the years immediately following the Restoration of 1660, when Lely's style became the preferred expression of elite status. The sitter wears a silvery-grey satin gown with soft white chemise sleeves, a fashion typical of c.1660–1665, when looser, sensuous fabrics replaced the stiff bodices of earlier decades. The triangular highlights in the satin are characteristic of Lely's studio, often executed by his drapery specialist John Baptist Gaspars. A simple pearl necklace reinforces themes of purity and aristocratic refinement, while the sitter's spiral ringlets—falling in corkscrew curls along the temples and shoulders—mirror the hairstyles favoured at court in the early 1660s. The portrait was likely commissioned to mark m...

Seller Details

Titan Fine Art

London United Kingdom



Tel: 07875 412 111

International Tel: +44 7875 412 111