

SA137131

17TH CENTURY OIL
 PORTRAIT OF KING CHARLES
 II B1630-D1685 STUDIO OF
 JOHN MICHAEL WRIGHT
 (B.1617-D.1694) ENGLISH
 SCHOOL & MEASURING 54.5
 X 45.5 INCHES IN PERIOD
 SOLD FRAME.

Item Reference: SA137131

Date of manufacture: 1700

Description

King Charles II (1630-1685), Reigned 1660-85. This portrait of the king in garter robes shows him as he appeared to his subjects at the Restoration, a tall and imposing man in his thirties; in old age Charles's features would show the ravages of personal indulgence. The portrait is in an exceptional period original frame. ABOUT KING CHARLES II Fugitive Philanderer Fireman Charles II's life was hugely eventful. During the Civil War he saw service at the Battle of Edgehill aged only twelve and he continued to fight until he was sent abroad for safety aged fifteen. When he was twenty-one he launched a daring invasion of England, which ended in defeat at the Battle of Worcester. Charles spent six weeks on the run before he escaped the country disguised as a servant. He was restored to the throne in 1660 but in 1665 was forced to flee from London with his family to avoid the plague. Charles also had a busy private life; his court was notorious for its easy-going morality and he fathered fourteen illegitimate children by seven mistresses. Hardly surprising then that when the Great Fire of London broke out in 1666, this man of action personally directed the fire-fi...

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