

SA137601

**Godfrey Kneller and Studio
1646-1723 Portrait of John
Dryden 1631-1700**

Price

GBP 2,800

| USD \$3,789 | EUR 3,276

Item Reference: SA137601**Date of manufacture: 1700**

Dimensions

Height = 30 cm (11.8")

Width = 25 cm (9.8")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

Portrait of John Dryden 1631-1700 oil on panel 11 x 9 in. (28 x 23 cm.) this panel is similar to the oil on panel n the National Portrait Gallery NPG 57 where Dryden is holding a laurel wreath and is painted in a feigned oval. John Dryden was born at the vicarage of Aldwinkle, Northamptonshire, on August 9, 1631, son of Erasmus Dryden and Mary Pickering. His family were Parliamentary supporters with Puritan leanings. He attended Westminster School as a king's scholar under Richard Busby and was an avid student of the classics. While at Westminster, Dryden published his first verses, an elegy "Upon the Death of Lord Hastings", in *Lachrymæ Musarum* (1649). He entered Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1650, and took a BA in 1654. Dryden moved to London around 1657, and first gained notice with his 'Heroic Stanzas' (1659) on the death of Lord Protector Cromwell. In the Royalist climate of the Restoration, he sensibly wrote *Astraea Redux* (1660) to celebrate the return of King Charles II. For the coronation, Dryden wrote "To His Sacred Majesty, A Panegyric" (1661). In 1662, Dryden wrote verses "To My Lord Chancellor" Clarendon, and was elected to the Royal Society. The th...

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