

SA16458

**SOLD....Portrait of Mary,
Duchess of Ormonde c.1695,
by Michael Dahl**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA16458

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in well carved giltwood frame, inscribed upper left 'Dutchess of Ormond' (note 18th c. spelling). LADY MARY SOMERSET, DUCHESS OF ORMONDE (1665 - 1733) was the daughter of Sir Henry Somerset, 1st Duke of Beaufort, and Mary Capel. She became the second wife of James Butler, Duke of Ormonde, on the 3rd of August 1685. The poet Dryden dedicated a shamelessly flattering poem to her in the preface of his translation of Chaucer's 'Knights' Tale'. When her husband was exiled Mary lived at Ormonde House, Chelsea from 1720 until her death in 1733. The Ormondes had two children; Elizabeth, who died unmarried in April 1750 and Mary, who married the 1st Earl of Ashburnham in October 1710. James Butler, 2nd Duke of Ormonde (April 29, 1665 - November 16, 1745), Irish statesman and soldier, was born in Dublin and was educated in France and afterwards at Christ Church, Oxford. He was a gallant cavalry commander in his youth and rose to become Captain-General of the Army and Viceroy of Ireland. However, in 1715 he became involved in the Jacobite Rebellion and had to flee to Spain. His immense estates were confiscated by the Crown. Towards the end of his life he resided mu...
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