

SA17142

**SOLD...Portrait of a Lady 1743;
attributed to Moses
Vanderbank**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA17142

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in reproduction frame. An interesting portrait of a lady, the canvas inscribed 'M V Pinxt 1743' (M V painted this in 1743). The sitter holds a book and wears an ermine trimmed robe...the book signifies her literacy and intelligence, the ermine shows her status as a peeress and is a symbol of female virtue, and, curiously, is also the attribute of Touch personified, one of the Five Senses. The portrait is very much in the style of JOHN VANDERBANK (1694-1739), especially the rubbed highlights and the treatment of the flesh tones - where a hot pink and cool grey-green are juxtaposed to suggest glowing skin. These are Vanderbank's 'trademarks' and instantly recognisable. However, John died four years before this painting was created. I believe the answer is that the portrait is by his younger brother MOSES VANDERBANK (1695-after 1745). He was a pupil of John's and has followed his brother's manner well. John nearly always signed and dated his portraits, it seems that Moses was influenced even by this. No other works by Moses have survived, apart from three altarpieces in the 12th c. church at Adel, near Leeds. Moses Vanderbank was even more improvident than...

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