

SA181640

**Portrait of Lady Anne Campbell
c.1715; by Michael Dahl.**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA181640

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in old reproduction frame of appropriate type. This superb portrait of the beautiful young Lady Anne Campbell is one of Dahl's most sensitive and gentle portraits of a woman. She wears none of the accoutrements of her rank...the usual fashionable pearl ear pendants and necklace are absent. She looks pensively out at the viewer, holding in her right hand, a sprig of jasmine, which, in the language of flowers, symbolises amiability of character. Unlike the swagger and confidence depicted in most three quarter length portraits of the period here Dahl suggests innocence and vulnerability. This portrait is a fine example of the artist's eloquent depiction of aristocratic women. In terms of both draughtmanship and pose Dahl's female portraits are noticeably softer and gentler than Kneller's, and thus allow for a greater versatility in the expression of feminine beauty. Dahl's works are frequently distinguished by a greater attention to the character of the sitter than those of his rivals, and he particularly allowed a softer aspect to the surfaces of his sitter's costume and drapery. His colours are silvery and luminous, and there is a great charm and sensit...

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