

**SA289643**

## Portrait of Mary of Modena; Attributed to Caspar Netscher.

Price

**Sold****Item Reference: SA289643****Date of manufacture: 17th Century**

## Description

Oil on canvas; unframed; recently cleaned, lined and restretched. The pose was one used by Netscher previously; the body, drapery and background are based on a portrait of the sitter's daughter-in-law Queen Mary II (now in the Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg). MARY OF MODENA (Maria Beatrice Anna Margherita Isabella d'Este; 1658 – 1718) was Queen of England, Scotland and Ireland as the second wife of James II [England] and VII [Scotland], (1633–1701). Mary Beatrice had wanted to join the convent for the Sisters of the Visitation, which was next door to the Modena's castle. But she had to marry the widowed James, who was the younger brother and heir presumptive of Charles II. Throughout her life, she was first and foremost a devoted and pious Catholic. She was uninterested in politics and devoted to James and their children, two of whom survived to adulthood: the Jacobite (previous Roman Catholic/Stuart dynasty) claimant to the thrones, James Francis Edward, (who would have become James III of England, but later in life known as "The Old Pretender"), and Louisa Maria Teresa. Born a princess of the northwestern Italian Duchy of Modena, Mary is primarily remembered for ...

Internal Ref: 8810

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