

SA31678

Portrait of a Lady c.1740; by
Jean-Baptiste Van Loo

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA31678

Date of manufacture: 1750

Description

Oil on canvas in good quality period giltwood frame. A fine portrait of an aristocratic lady showing the qualities that made the artist such a success...an ability to suggest wit, a sense of humour and an inner mental life in his sitters; and, in the drapery, a freedom of expression and a painterly delight in the use of the medium. The effect of Van Loo's arrival in London on British portraiture was dynamic - the Continental refinement and polish that was characteristic of his work made much of the then fashionable painting seem stilted and old-fashioned. His style was particularly successful with portraits of women.... he had a smarter style than Richardson's, he influenced Hudson, and his manners and manner suited the upper classes better than Hogarth's. JEAN-BAPTISTE VAN LOO (1684-1745), born in Aix-en-Provence. He worked in the south of France, Turin and Rome, settling in Paris in 1720 becoming a Member of the Academy. Coming to England in 1737 he had immense success in London as a fashionable portrait painter; by 1739 he was the favourite painter of the Prime Minister Sir Robert Walpole and had painted the Princess of Wales and her family. Due to ill-health he ret...

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