

SA417968

Portrait of a Lady c.1710: Follower of Michael Dahl.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA417968****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 84 cm (33.1")

Width = 68 cm (26.8")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

Oil on canvas in a giltwood late 18th century frame bearing the incorrect inscription 'Sir Peter Lely'. Originally an oval, the painting was made rectangular probably in the 18th or 19th century. There was a craze for having portraits re-framed en-suite, and this one was almost certainly a victim of that fashion. This is a typical portrait of the period; the lady regards the viewer with a quiet confidence, her hair in the fashionable style as is her 'undress'. The robe open to show her chemise, and a silk wrap draped over one shoulder...this relaxed style of dressing for one's portrait was encouraged by artists as it was a lot easier and quicker to paint than elaborate formal daywear. MICHAEL DAHL (1659-1743) was born in Stockholm; after studying in Paris, Rome and Frankfurt he settled in London in 1689. He soon became the best patronised portrait painter in England after Kneller. He was much employed at the Court painting many portraits; a great patron of the 1690s was the Duke of Somerset, for whom he painted the series of portraits of Court ladies known as the 'Petworth Beauties'. His style is extremely close to Kneller but his interpretation of character is less br...

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