

SA43960

**SOLD...Portrait of John
Campbell, Duke of Argyll
c.1725; by William Aikman**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA43960

Date of manufacture:

Description

JOHN CAMBELL, 2nd Duke of Argyll and Duke of Greenwich (1680-1743) was a statesman and soldier, he served under the Duke of Marlborough at the Battle of Malplaquet in 1709, becoming Commander-in-Chief in Spain in 1711. He suppressed the Jacobite Rebellion of 1715, resisting the Earl of Mar's forces at Sherrifmuir, but was then replaced for taking too lenient an attitude to the rebels. He was one of the mainstays of government policy in Scotland until his final dismissal in 1740. WILLIAM AIKMAN (1682-1731) was a Scottish portrait painter, only son of the Laird of Cairney, Forfar where he was born. He developed a passion for painting and studied under Medina, sold the family estate and went to Rome in 1707 for three years. He settled in Edinburgh in 1712 and was an excellent taker of likenesses, the best Edinburgh portraitist of his time, painting most of the nobility, gentry and lawyers. In 1723, encouraged by the Duke of Argyll, he moved to London where he was not only patronised by Scots, but became well known in literary circles and the friend of Pope, Gray, Thomson and others. He is buried in Grey Friars Church, Edinburgh. This painting is a good example of Aikma...

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