

SA453158

Portrait of King William III,
English, 17th Century; Circle of
Sir Peter Lely (1618 - 1680)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA453158

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 86 cm (33.9")

Width = 73 cm (28.7")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Oil on canvas. This portrait hung in the drawing room (see photo) over the chimney mantle at "The Old Rectory" in Winestead, England. The Old Rectory is a glorious former parsonage originating from 1660 with later additions, and was the home of Colonel Rupert Alexander Smith (1913-1983). The Colonel compiled an inventory of the contents of the house and described how the antiques 'have been inherited by me from my grandfather, Alexander Smith of Woodleigh House (1849-1927), and my father and mother at Warne Lodge'. The entry regarding the present portrait states that it was 'said to be the Duke of Monmouth (beheaded 1685) but having a closer resemblance to King William III.' It is in fact, a portrait of William III produced by the circle of Sir Peter Lely and his studio and is in keeping with Lely's military portraits of the Prince of Orange (later William III) c.1677. More precisely, stylistically it is notably redolent with the work of the Dutch émigré painter Willem Wissing (who worked in the studio of Lely). The head itself, Wissing is known to have repeated on more than one occasion. Willem Wissing later became one of the leading portraitists after Lely's death...

Seller Details

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