

SA591168

**Portrait of a Young Lady
c.1665; Attributed to John
Greenhill.**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA591168

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 94 cm (37.0")

Width = 81 cm (31.9")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

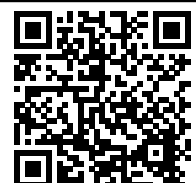
Oil on canvas in a very fine quality carved and giltwood period frame. A charming portrait of a young lady, little more than a girl, shown within a feigned carved stone oval; this was a fashionable conceit of the time and was much used by Sir Peter Lely and his 'disciple' Mary Beale. It is almost certain that portrait was to commemorate the betrothal of the young sitter; marriages in the aristocracy were often planned well ahead of the event, sometimes shortly after the birth of the child. It was more like the merger of powerful businesses than marriage as it is understood today. The sitter is, at present, unknown; so as she regards us with a wide eyed look of innocence, one cannot help but wonder how her life progressed. JOHN GREENHILL (c.1644-1676), was an English born portrait painter whose initial training is unknown but who rivalled the leading London artists of the seventeenth century. The Restoration of King Charles II (1630-85) stimulated an upheaval within the cultural sphere, in particular artistic patronage. Portrait painters such as Sir Peter Lely quickly found favour amongst the highest ranks of society, and as a result many continental artists migrated to En...

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