

SA601088

**Portrait of Mary, Lady Vere;
Circle of William Larkin.**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA601088

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 90 cm (35.4")

Width = 79 cm (31.1")

Depth = 4 cm (1.6")

Description

Oil on canvas in a reproduction 'cassetta' frame of appropriate type. This is a 'head and shoulders' version of the full length of Mary, Lady Vere, in the National Gallery of Victoria, Australia. MARY, LADY VERE (1581–1671), a highly distinguished member of the English aristocracy. Mary was in her early thirties when she sat for Larkin, and she wears the sombre yet opulent costume befitting a married noblewoman. She lived an extraordinary life that spanned the reigns of Elizabeth I, James I, Charles I, Oliver Cromwell and Charles II, until her death at the age of ninety-one – a remarkable age at a time when the average life expectancy in England was thirty-five. At the age of nineteen she was wed to William Hoby, with whom she had two sons prior to his death in 1602. In 1607 she married Sir Horace Vere and would have five daughters from this second marriage. A professional soldier, Sir Horace saw active service during the Dutch wars against Spanish rule. Lady Vere accompanied him to the Netherlands for a number of years, during which time the couple became actively involved with Calvinism. Throughout her life Lady Vere supported a number of puritan and protestant ministe...

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