

SA625815

Portrait of Mary Davison, Lady
Eden (c.1710-1794) c.1725;
Studio of Michael Dahl
(1659-1743)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA625815

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 158 cm (62.2")

Width = 130 cm (51.2")

Depth = 10 cm (3.9")

Description

From the collection of the real-life 'Monuments Man', Christopher Norris. As Chief of the British Section of the British Monuments and Fine Arts and Archives in 1946, he enthusiastically engaged in helping to rescue German monuments lying in the rubble and aid their repatriation and also organise the return of collections from repositories scattered over the countryside. These English officers set to work with great vigour, involving wearisome negotiations with English and German officials. These men paid from their own pockets for the chemicals needed for the conservation workshop, which could only be acquired from abroad. This elegant large-scale portrait is a fine example of Michael Dahl's refined court-style depiction of aristocratic women. The curve of her neck and the elegant turn of the head are features typical of the formula used by Dahl. The portrait can be dated to circa 1725, and has been depicted in fashionably dressed clothing, in a landscape with a rocky outcrop. The shimmering blue azure wrap dramatically flows through the air and off the canvas, providing a sense of movement. Dahl was influenced by Godfrey Kneller but his portraits of woman are dis...

Seller Details

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