

SA631953

Portrait of William Ramsden
(1558-1623) c.1620; Circle of
Daniel Mytens (c.1590-c.1648)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA631953

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 72 cm (28.3")

Width = 63 cm (24.8")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This portrait descended through one of England's oldest families for over three centuries. It passed through the Ramsden family, who were Lords of the Manors of Almondbury and Longley Hall, before passing into the ancient Lowther family (later the Earls of Lonsdale) when Lady Katherine Ramsden (1697-1778) married Sir William Lowther (c.1694-1763). Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York is a descendant of both these ancient families. The author of this striking portrait was a painter of considerable talent. It depicts a gentleman wearing an elaborate lace collar and sumptuous black slashed satin coat. Painted circa 1620 it is a fine example in its description of the sitter's character and the careful reproduction of the face and fabrics. The extraordinary costume with its shimmering quality and costly fabric is of the highest quality and de rigueur for the upper class. This is indicative of the sitter's wealth and speaks of the status of this gentleman. Black was a predominant colour for clothing (although it was not the dominant colour for everyday apparel) and artists had an array of stunning black fabrics and a wide range of textures to portray in their work. Black ma...

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