

SA643793

Portrait of Catherine, Lady Perceval (1637-1679) c.1661; Studio of Sir Peter Lely (1618 - 1680)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA643793

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 149 cm (58.7")

Width = 125 cm (49.2")

Depth = 11 cm (4.3")

Description

Portrait of Catherine, Lady Perceval (1637-1679) circa 1661 Studio of Sir Peter Lely (1618 - 1680) This work formed part of a collection of family pictures and heirlooms of the Perceval Baronets (later Earl's of Egmont) for almost 300 years, before it was dispersed along with 59 other family portraits by the 10th Earl of Egmont (1872-1932) of Avon Castle. The sitter in this magnificent portrait descended from one of the best and most ancient families in England; she was said to be "One of the most amiable and excellent woman that any age ever produced, and of an extraction very ancient and honourable". Painted by the most technically proficient painter in England after the death of Van Dyck, and the dominant court painter to Charles II and James, Duke of York, Sir Peter Lely. This elegant portrait of Lady Catherine Perceval nee Southwell (Norfolk 1637 - Dublin 1679) portrays her standing half-length in classical costume, placed in a capriccio landscape with a fountain. It was a popular pose that Lely used throughout the 1660's, and one which would have been chosen from a selection by the sitter, and represents a conventional gendered celebration of marriage. The mot...

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