

SA678118

Dated 1736 Portrait of a Lady
with Dove; Signed by Willem
Verelst (c.1704-1752)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA678118

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 146 cm (57.5")

Width = 120 cm (47.2")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This work represents an accomplished artist at his very best. The Verelst dynasty of painters included at least ten family members over three generations. The portrait is perhaps the best in the artist's oeuvre and it has been signed and dated "Wm Verelst Pinxit 1736". A portrait that was formerly identified as the Earl of Chesterfield by the artist sold for £31,070 and a portrait of a boy, full-length, in a pale red silver embroidered coat, waistcoat, and breeches (signed and dated 1738) sold for £26,000 at Christies London 11th June 2002. This exquisite large-scale work is a very accomplished example of the type of portrait that was in vogue in 18th century England. Much of the beauty of this elegant portrait resides in its graceful composition and the tender way in which the lady has been depicted – this work is essentially a representation of female beauty. Beautifully composed, the lady is seated beside a table with two books and a blue curtain swag above. The large diamond hair jewellery would have been a costly item. The painting abounds with ingenious flourishes and demonstrations of the painter's skill and superior pictorial technique. Verelst's ad...

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