

SA693764

Portrait thought to be of
Benjamin Clapham of
Braithwaite Hall, West Witton,
Yorkshire c1730, by John
Vanderbank.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA693764

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 58.5 cm (23.0")

Width = 53 cm (20.9")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

Oil on canvas. This is a superb quality portrait, typical of Vanderbank's finest work. At this period many portraits were produced, a large number of them depicted the sitters in a stereotypical, stylised manner. That is not the case here; with a remarkably contemporary feel to it, this is an extremely sensitive and talented painting. The sitter regards us, as he did the artist, with a frank and level gaze. The portrait has, at some time in the past, been reduced in size. However, this has not had an adverse effect on the image; on the contrary, as the sitter now fills his space within the frame it is as if he has moved closer to the viewer, creating a strong feeling of intimacy. Braithwaite Hall can be seen in Image 6 JOHN VANDERBANK (1694-1739) was born in London into an artistic family at the close of the seventeenth century. The son of John Vanderbank Senior, the well known royal tapestry weaver, Vanderbank studied painting first with his father and the portrait painter Jonathan Richardson. He was one of Godfrey Kneller's earliest pupils at the Academy of Painting from 1711, and in 1720, when Kneller's academy began to decline, started his own Academy of painting in...

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