

SA719934

Portrait of the Countess of Radnor, 17th century, after Sir Peter Lely.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA719934

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 96.5 cm (38.0")

Width = 84 cm (33.1")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

Fine quality oil on canvas in the original 17th century carved and giltwood frame. This portrait, possibly by Lely's Studio, is after the three-quarter length version by Lely and Studio, at Lanhydrock House, Cornwall. As the sitter was considered a great beauty in her time, several portraits of her exist. This particular pose was much in vogue and was associated with a fashionable melancholy and deep, sensitive thoughts. LETITIA ISABELLA SMITH, COUNTESS OF RADNOR (c.1630-1714) She was the daughter of Sir John Smith, or Smythe, of Bedborough, Kent and his wife, Isabel Rich, youngest daughter of Robert Rich, 1st Earl of Warwick and Sidney's 'Stella'. They had four sons and five daughters, including the Hon. Francis Robartes (?1650-1718), the composer and scientist, whose portrait by Kneller is at Lanhydrock and Laetitia Isabella Robartes, who married firstly, in 1669, the 2nd Earl of Drogheda, and secondly, around 1679, the playwright William Wycherley. After the death of the Earl of Radnor at his celebrated house (previously Danvers House) in Chelsea, the sitter was married, as his second wife, to her Chelsea neighbour Charles Cheyne, 1st Viscount Newhaven (1625-98). La...

Internal Ref: 9185

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