

SA789143

Portrait of Elizabeth Penyston
Dated 1635; Signed Cornelius
Johnson 1593-1664), Oil on
canvas

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA789143

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 97 cm (38.2")

Width = 82 cm (32.3")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Through merit and splendid achievement, the artist of this portrait can be placed within the first rank of England's portrait painters of the generation before Van Dyke. Cornelius Johnson was a painter beautifully sensitive to individual character and his careful and faithful depictions of clothing afford a priceless resource to historians – he was the first British-born portrait painter (born in London) to regularly sign and date his work. His precise, meticulous, and dignified portraits perfectly reflect the spirit of the arts in England at the time. So great a painter, he was sworn in as the King's own painter in 1632. His work is found in most public collections in Britain and in many private collections – seen on the walls in many British country houses, in the possession of descendants of the original sitters – and the best examples of his work, such as our portrait, are not often available on the market. This exquisite portrait is a particularly splendid example of the sumptuous half-length female portraits that Johnson painted for members of the court and gentry during the 1630s. Painted in 1635, three years after Van Dyck's arrival, Johnson makes no attempt to...

Seller Details

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