

SA797071

c.1702 Portrait of Elizabeth Finch, later 1st Countess of Aylesford (c.1658-1743);
 Attributed to Jonathan Richardson (1667-1745), oil on canvas

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA797071

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 91 cm (35.8")

Width = 79 cm (31.1")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

The fair-skinned beauty in this eloquent portrait is Elizabeth Finch, the daughter of the English merchant and MP, Sir John Banks, 1st Baronet (1627-1699). Sir John was created a baronet, apparently as a reward for handling an old debt of Charles II, a transaction which earned him not only the royal gratitude, but a handsome profit. He began a long and profitable career of lending money to the Government (upwards of £360,000) and subsequently amassed a huge fortune and became one of the richest businessmen in England. Upon Sir John's death in 1699, Elizabeth, along with her sister Mary, inherited his fortune (his male children had already predeceased him), but it was Elizabeth that brought the estate to her husband Heneage Finch. Elizabeth married the English lawyer and statesman, Heneage Finch 1st Earl of Aylesford (1649-1719) in 1678 at St. Giles-in-the-Fields Church, London, England. Heneage was a son of Heneage Finch, 1st Earl of Nottingham and Elizabeth Harvey. It is possible that this portrait was painted in 1703 to mark the event when her husband was created Baron Guernsey and a privy councillor, and Elizabeth herself created Baroness of Guernsey. Elizabeth...

Seller Details

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