

SA802141

Portrait of a Lady c.1695; Attributed to Jonathan Richardson.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA802141****Date of manufacture: 1700**

Dimensions

Height = 95 cm (37.4")

Width = 81 cm (31.9")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

An oil on canvas in its original finely carved frame...a work of art in its own right. The sitter regards us with a candid gaze; unlike many portraits of women painted at this time she is shown as a real person, rather than a cipher or fashion icon. In this insightful painting the lady is shown as clearly intelligent and capable of strong opinion, yet she has compassion. She wears the fashionable 'undress' of the time with a loosely knotted scarf worn 'a la Steinkerk', painted with strong brush strokes and a painterly delight in the medium. JONATHAN RICHARDSON (1665-1745) sometimes called "the Elder" to distinguish him from his son, was an English artist, collector of drawings, and writer on art, working almost entirely as a portrait-painter in London. Richardson was born in 1666, but when he was about seven his father died and his mother married again. Richardson became a scrivener's apprentice, but he was released early when his master retired. Richardson was lucky enough to be taken on as a painting apprentice by John Riley. He learnt the art of portraiture from Riley whilst living at his master's house. Richardson's wife was Riley's niece. Richardson was as influen...

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