

SA805003

Portrait of King William III
c.1700; Studio of Sir Godfrey
Kneller (1646-1723), Antique
Oil on Canvas Painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA805003

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 145 cm (57.1")

Width = 120 cm (47.2")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

Description

This impressive grand-scale portrait depicts King William III, sovereign Prince of Orange from birth, Stadtholder of Holland, Zeeland, Utrecht, Guelders, and Overijssel in the Dutch Republic from the 1670s and King of England, Ireland, and Scotland from 1689 until his death in 1702. As King of Scotland, he is known as William II. The military-minded William III is portrayed as the archetypal commander – serious and authoritative. Painted circa 1700 he wears full armour of highly polished steel and holds a baton of command in one hand while the other rests on his hip, the fingers forming a 'W'. A battle rages in the background – a common setting in portraits for important sitters at the time. This portrait is a fitting accompaniment to his military record and his heroic visage suitably reflects his status. The gold badge of the Most Noble Order of the Garter is worn suspended from the blue sash at the right hip (sometimes known as "the Lesser George") – it shows St. George the Martyr on horseback slaying a dragon. This order of chivalry founded by Edward III of England in 1348 is the most senior order of knighthood in the British honours system. The work is the ep...

Seller Details

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