

SA853850

Portrait of Elizabeth, Viscountess Dunbar 1710, by Sir Godfrey Kneller.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA853850****Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 94 cm (37.0")

Width = 81 cm (31.9")

Depth = 6.6 cm (2.6")

Description

Oil on canvas in the original carved and giltwood frame. Signed, faintly, with GK monogram to the left. (Our restorer confirms that this signature is original to the painting.) A later inscription identifying the sitter lower left. ELIZABETH, VISCOUNTESS DUNBAR was the daughter of the Hugh Clifford, 2nd Baron Clifford of Chudleigh, painted here aged 25 in 1710. The Hon. Elizabeth Clifford (1689 – 25 September 1721), married first William Constable, 4th Viscount Dunbar (1653–1718), without issue, married second on 17 November 1720 Charles Fairfax, 9th Viscount Fairfax of Emley, without issue. SIR GODFREY KNELLER (1646-1723) dominates our understanding of late seventeenth and early eighteenth century British portraiture. With Van Dyck, Lely and Reynolds, his name has become synonymous with the visual interpretation of British history – not least because he painted almost every person of prominence in forty years of British public life. Every reigning British monarch from Charles II to George I sat to Kneller. This is a very fine example of Kneller's work in the early 18th century, it is one of Kneller's more intimate female studies. The sitter is unencumbered by high fas...

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Seller Details

Roy Precious - Antiques & Fine Art

Wiltshire United Kingdom



Tel: 01249 815048 or 07710 222273

International Tel: +44 1249 815048 or +44 7710 222273