

SA936474

**Portrait of Lady Judith Monson
c.1661; Circle of Sir Peter Lely
(1618-1680), Antique oil on
canvas painting**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA936474

Date of manufacture: 17th Century

Dimensions

Height = 139 cm (54.7")

Width = 117 cm (46.1")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

The fair-skinned beauty in this grand scale portrait is Lady Judith Monson (c.1623-1700), the daughter of Sir Thomas Pelham (2nd Baronet) of Laughton in Sussex and his wife Mary (nee Wilbraham). She appears amongst the bounties of nature, her white skin and neck sparkling without the distraction of added, and artificial, adornments. Born Lady Judith Pelham, she married John Monson (c.1628-1674), the son of Sir John Monson, 2nd Baronet of South Carlton and Broxbourne, in London on 7 June 1647. Her husband served as Member of Parliament for Lincoln in two periods between 1660 and 1674. The noble house in which John Monson represented ranks amongst the oldest families in the country with ancestors traced back in Lincolnshire to the 14th century. The couple had 14 children, 7 of which were living at the time of their father's death in 1674. Lady Monson died on 21 December 1700 in Broxbourne, Hertfordshire, at the age of 72, and was buried there. The portrait is likely to have been commissioned to celebrate her husband's creation as Knight of the Bath in 1661 in recognition of his work as a commissioner and a J.P. in Lincolnshire and subsequently Hertfordshire. At thi...

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