

SA989349

Margaret (Peg) Woffington
c.1750, by Arthur Pond.
Portrait oil on canvas.

Price

GBP 9,985

| USD \$13,512 | EUR 11,683

Item Reference: SA989349

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 99 cm (39.0")

Width = 86.5 cm (34.1")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

Oil on canvas in a fine gilt frame. Peg is probably depicted here as the beautiful dairymaid Phebe in Shakespeare's 'As You Like It'. Accompanying the portrait is a rare book published in 1952 'Lovely Peggy'. MARGARET WOFFINGTON (1720 – 1760), known professionally as Peg Woffington, was an Irish actress and socialite of the Georgian era. Woffington was born of humble origins in Dublin, Ireland. It is said that she was walking through a marketplace as a pre-teen and happened upon Madame Violante, a famous tightrope walker. Signora Violante was so immediately enthralled by Peg's beautiful face that she accompanied Peg home and asked her mother permission to take her in as her apprentice. Around 1730, Madame Violante featured the young Woffington in her Lilliputian Theatre Company's production of John Gay's The Beggar's Opera. Her performance as Macheath served as a springboard for continued fame in Dublin. She continued dancing and acting in the area – playing Dorinda in an adaptation of The Tempest at the Theatre Royal, Dublin in 1735 and later joining the Smock Alley Theatre to perform with well known actor, David Garrick. She danced and acted at various Dublin theatres...

Internal Ref: 9205

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