



Portrait Of William Congreve, From The Workshop Of Godfrey Kneller (lübeck 1646 - London 1723)



6 700 EUR

Signature : Atelier de Godfrey Kneller (Lübeck 1646 -
Londres 1723)

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : encadré 82 cm.

Height : encadré 94 cm.

Description

Godfrey Kneller (Lübeck 1646 - London 1723)
workshopPortrait of William Congreve
(1670-1729)English playwright and poet of the
Restoration periodOil on canvas76 x 64 cm -
Framed 94 x 82 cmFULL DETAILS (CLICK
HERE)This fine portrait, exquisitely executed
and in excellent condition, depicts an elegant
gentleman wearing a refined ochre-colored satin
jacket, which covers a shirt whose cuff peeks out
from the sleeve, while a long, finely knotted
white fabric cravat stands out around his neck,
creating a sharp chromatic contrast with the warm
tones of his attire.On his head is a majestic wig
known as the 'alla sovrana' style, with long curls
falling over his shoulders, an undisputed symbol
of European Baroque fashion between the second
half of the 17th century and the early 18th

Dealer

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century. With a direct and serene gaze directed at the viewer, the portrait captures all the grace and sense of confidence of the subject. Her left hand, delicately resting on her chest and partially tucked into the folds of her jacket, displays a classic gesture of portraiture from the era, a symbol of composure, elegance, and high social rank. The subject is set within a faux oval gold frame, a compositional device widely used in Baroque art to focus attention on the figure's face. His expression, outlined by a delicate, barely perceptible smile, aligns with the pictorial convention of the era, which required painters to allude to emotions without making them explicit--and thus vulgar. This is a valuable work which, based on its stylistic characteristics, we can readily attribute to the English painter Godfrey Kneller (Lübeck 1646 - London 1723) or to a skilled artist active within his extensive academy. Among his most faithful assistants and students, who replicated his portraits, we can mention Robert Byng and Edward Byng, John Vanderbank, and Edward Alcock. Kneller became the official court painter of England and is considered, along with Peter Lely and Willem Wissing, one of the masters of English portraiture between the 17th and 18th centuries: he painted every reigning British monarch from King Charles II to King George I, as well as the most important figures in British society and public life. Although there are no inscriptions attesting to the identity of the subject, based on a comparison with other portraits of the period, we are inclined to recognize the features and facial characteristics of William Congreve (Yorkshire, 1670 - London 1729)**, one of the most important English playwrights and poets of the Restoration, and immortalized by Kneller on several occasions at various stages of his life. World-renowned for writing some of the most brilliant and satirical comedies of manners in British literature, including **The Way of the World**, a masterpiece of biting social criticism, he was undoubtedly considered an influential figure of his time.

****Godfrey KnellerPortrait of William**

CongreveNational Portrait Gallery,

LondonADDITIONAL INFORMATION:The

work is accompanied by an elegant gilded frame, a certificate of authenticity, and a descriptive iconographic sheet. We handle and arrange the transport of purchased works, both within Italy and internationally, using professional and insured carriers. You can also view the painting at our gallery in Riva del Garda; we would be delighted to welcome you and show you our collection of works. Please feel free to contact us for any additional information. Follow us on: <https://www.instagram.com/galleriacastelbarco/?hl=it> <https://www.facebook.com/galleriacastelbarco/>