



PAIR OF 19TH CENTURY ENGLISH OIL ON CANVAS PORTRAITS PAINTINGS IN CARVED FRAMES

\$4,600

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Decorate a living room or study with this exquisite pair of antique paintings. Crafted in England circa 1860 in the Baroque style from the school of Godfrey Kneller, and set in the original carved gilt frame, each oval portrait composition is at half length; one of a female and one of a male, each turned slightly toward the viewer's left. The woman is wearing a white dress with scooped neckline and blue lace trim at both the neckline and on sleeves. A touch of red appears in her belt and peeks from within folds of the sleeve. A blue shawl is draped over her right shoulder. Her hair is dark and curled with an ornament worn on the proper left side of her head. Trees are seen in the dark background. The gentleman figure is wearing a suit of armor with a white cravat at his neck. His hair is long and curly. Both large paintings are in excellent condition with rich colors and set in rectangular ornate molding with running leaf and flower composition with floral accents in each corner. Sir Godfrey Kneller, 1st Baronet (born Gottfried Kniller; 8 August 1646 – 19 October 1723), was the leading portrait painter in England during the late 17th and early 18th centuries, and was court painter to English and British monarchs from Charles II to George I. His major works include *The Chinese Convert* (1687; Royal Collection, London); a series of four portraits of Isaac Newton painted at various junctures of the latter's life; a series of ten reigning European monarchs, including King Louis XIV of France; over 40 "kit-cat portraits" of members of the Kit-Cat Club; and ten "beauties" of the court of William III, to match a similar series of ten of Charles II's mistresses painted by Kneller's predecessor as court painter, Sir Peter Lely. Measures: 34" W x 39" H.