



30 Oct 2013 13:00 GMT London, Knightsbridge Old Master Paintings Back to auction 20613

## 47 English School, early 17th Century

Portrait of Sir Thomas Monson (1563/4-1641), three-quarter-length, in a slashed white doublet, girdled with a sword, holding a falcon and his wand of office bears inscription and date 'Sr L'Estrange/Mordaunt Bart/ June 26th 1611' (lower right) oil on panel 110 x 82cm (43 5/16 x 32 5/16in).

Estimate: £7,000 - 10,000 €8,300 - 12,000 US\$ 11,000 - 16,000

## Footnotes

Sir Thomas Monson was the eldest surviving son of Sir John Monson (d. 1593) of South Carlton, Lincolnshire. His career thrived under the rule of James I and he became Master Falconer to the King, a position celebrated in this portrait, and was appointed Keeper of the Armoury at Greenwich and Master of the Armoury at the Tower of London. However, his fortunes changed in 1615 when he was implicated in the scandal of poisoning Sir Thomas Overbury. He was imprisoned in the Tower before eventually being cleared and released with his reputation and fortune in ruins.

Another version of this portrait was sold at Christie's, London, 3 July 2013, lot 231.

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