Etched portrait, trimmed to plate mark.

THE YOUNG CHARLES II

Carolus II DG Magna Brittania Fra et Hibernia Rex

Author
HOLLAR, W[enceslaus] [after] Ant[hony] van DYCK

Publication date
1649.

Publisher
Johannes Meyssens],

Publication place
[Antwerp,

Physical description
Etched portrait, trimmed to plate mark.

Dimensions
250 by 182mm. (9.75 by 7.25 inches).

Notes
In the 1630s Sir Anthony van Dyck executed a series of painted portraits, which were made into engraved prints for his ‘Icones Principium Vivorum’, a work which remained incomplete at his death in 1641, but which was subsequently finished and published in 1645. Johannes Meyssens used it as the basis for his ‘Image de divers hommes’, to which Wenceslaus Hollar contributed a large fraction of the 74 new portraits included in the first edition of 1649. These included a portrait of the young

Charles II after van Dyck, who had been appointed court painter by his subject's father in 1632. With Charles I beheaded in the January of 1649, this print was published with Charles II as king de jure, as shown by the caption declaring him 'Magna Brittania Fra et Hibernia Rex'. He is shown in three-quarter length wearing a coat, lace collar and sash over his left shoulder. In his left hand he holds his hat and in the right a staff. The Banqueting Hall is visible through the window behind him, seen across St James' Park.

Bibliography
NHG Hollar 1064 II; Pennington 1442ii; RCIN 602331.

Provenance

Price: £400

Inventory reference: 18289

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