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Julia R. Rolfe

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[Free download] Portrait of a Lady: Sargent and Lady Agnew

Portrait of a Lady: Sargent and Lady Agnew

Julia R. Rolfe : Portrait of a Lady: Sargent and Lady Agnew before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Portrait of a Lady: Sargent and Lady Agnew:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The woman whose portrait launched his market in England By Rudi Franke Lady Agnew was a very attractive woman and Sargent's portrait of her got very high praise from his contemporary art critics. Because of the portrait she became a society "beauty" and Sargent, who hadn't made much of an impression in the art market in England overnight found himself inundated by commissions from the English aristocracy. She married a man quite a bit older than she was and who had to attend to his obligations in Scotland as a wealthy landowner, leaving her alone a great part of the time at their London residence. She became a society hostess whose invitations were much sought after. Sargent was, of course, a guest as were some other artists of that time; and she was also a guest of Sargent's. He was well liked by people who met him as he was also a talented pianist who would entertain his guests and his sitters by playing music for them when he wanted to take a break from his painting. I ran across his portrait of Lady Agnew in a catalog raisonné and I became so fascinated by their story that I purchased this book in order to find out more about their relationship. Besides a number of images of Lady Agnew, there is a good sampling of Sargent's society portraits in color and in black and white. It also has a goodly amount of text to help fill in the gaps lacking in other sources. This book was issued by the National Gallery of Scotland for a special exhibition featuring the lady and the artist. The National Gallery of Scotland is the proud owner of the painting. I love this book and am not ready to put it on ; it's a "keeper". Many years ago I was personally acquainted with two Scottish beauties that resemble Lady Agnew, so seeing her portrait reminded me of them both with the same pale skin and

black hair. This portrait is a nostalgic and painful memory for me every time I look at it.