

SA11273

SOLD....'The Shepherdess of the Alps' by Thomas Gaugain

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA11273****Date of manufacture:**

Description

Oil on canvas in 18th c. giltwood frame (probably the original), 19th c. strengthening to the back. Thomas Gaugain (c.1756-c.1805) was born in Abbeville, France. Moving to England, he entered the RA Schools in 1771; he exhibited at the Royal Academy seven times between 1778 and 1782 (this painting was exhibited in 1779). Gaugain became very successful with his portraits and fashionable paintings of the latest novels and plays; he also created engravings for those who could not afford an original (Hogarth had done the same). This charming image illustrates a scene from Marmontel's play 'The Shepherdess of the Alps' which became the rage in England and France and inspired many paintings and prints. It tells the tragic story of a forbidden love affair between two young French aristocrats. In spite of their family's objections Adelaide and her lover, the Count d'Orestan, run away together; but their happiness is short lived when the count tragically dies. A grief stricken Adelaide renounces the world and becomes a shepherdess. She at last finds happiness after she reveals her true identity to a French nobleman, Fonrose. Size: framed 31.75 x 38.5 inches unframed:...

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