

SA1153200

Painting Aurora Ascendant: Lady Jane Stanhope c. 1785

Price

GBP 5,000

| USD \$6,766 | EUR 5,851

Item Reference: SA1153200**Date of manufacture: 18th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 55 cm (21.7")

Width = 47 cm (18.5")

Depth = 1.5 cm (0.6")

Description

Aurora Ascendant: Lady Jane Stanhope in the Light of Dawn Watercolour on Paper, c. 1785 | After Sir Joshua Reynolds Subject & Medium: This radiant late 18th-century watercolour depicts Lady Jane Stanhope, Countess of Harrington (1755–1824), portrayed as Aurora, goddess of the dawn. Executed with poetic sensitivity, the translucent delicacy of the medium enhances the dreamlike ambiance and mythological gravitas — perfectly suited to a sitter of such refinement and stature. Composition & Technique: Set against a glowing, rose-tinted morning sky, Lady Jane stands gracefully in a classical contrapposto, her figure lightly poised among blooming flora. The gentle palette — golds, pinks, and misty blues — conjures the first light of day with painterly elegance. Her white satin gown flows in soft classical folds, painted with fluid, sweeping strokes. A translucent sash, scattered with golden stars, trails behind her, its movement captured with lyrical brushwork. Her finely rendered face and hands contrast with the looser atmospheric washes that envelop the scene, striking a balance between realism and allegory. Symbolic elements — stars, wreath, blossoms, and rising light — e...

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