

SA1157307

18th century English portrait of two young girls by George James (Fl. London 1755-1795 Boulogne)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1157307

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 127.5 cm (50.2")

Width = 121.2 cm (47.7")

Description

Portrait of two young girls in a wooded landscape, standing full-length, one attaching a red collar on a seated white whippet and the other holding her pet black and white rabbit. Circa 1765. Oil on canvas in a period giltwood frame. 127.5 x 102.2 cm. James was considered to be at his best in the 1760's and '70's when he was painting family portraits such as this particularly charming and playful example of his work. Although the identities of the sitters are currently unknown, they are likely to be daughters from a wealthy family, given their fashionably fine clothes and matching red slippers with their pets conveying a sense of refinement and high status. Other comparable works include his portrait of Emily and Georgina Mason with a lamb and cockatoo (Sotheby's, London, April 1996) and his portrait of Mary and Martha Spier with a spaniel (Sotheby's, London, July 1980). George James was born in London, and studied for some time in Rome. He established himself in Dean Street, Soho, London, and became a member of the Incorporated Society of Artists, exhibiting with them from 1761 to 1768. In 1764 he exhibited a painting called 'The Death of Abel.' In 1770 James was e...

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