

SA1203756

18th century English portrait of a lady by Thomas Beach, 1783

Price

GBP 14,000

| USD \$18,908 | EUR 16,374

Item Reference: SA1203756

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Description

Painted in 1783, this captivating portrait of a Lady by Thomas Beach (1738–1806) exemplifies the artist's celebrated ability to blend the "Grand Manner" of his mentor, Sir Joshua Reynolds, with a direct and intimate sensitivity. The sitter is presented in a half-length pose against a dramatic, dark background that pushes her presence into the immediate foreground. Beach masterfully balances the era's taste for theatricality with a sense of quiet dignity. Her expression is poised and intelligent, characterized by the "strong likeness" for which Beach was famous. Contemporaries often remarked that his portraits were so lifelike they "always explain themselves." Horace Walpole remarked 'His portraits never require the horrid question of—'Pray who is that, Sir?'—they always explain themselves.' The sitter wears a delicate lace-trimmed bodice in a soft cornflower blue, with a fine, translucent lace shawl. The intricate white-work of the shawl, dotted with fine embroidery, showcases Beach's technical skill in rendering textures. The patterned wrap—likely a silk or fine wool shawl with botanical motifs—is draped over her shoulders, adding a rich, tactile contrast to the eth...

Seller Details

Isherwood Fine Art

Bath and London United Kingdom By appointment only.



Tel: 07984 699799

International Tel: +44 7984 699799