

SA1231550

Portrait of George Gordon 6th Lord Byron (1788-1824), watercolour, 19th century

Price

GBP 550

| USD \$750 | EUR 642

Item Reference: SA1231550

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 42 cm (16.5")

Width = 34 cm (13.4")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Watercolour on paper; held in period rosewood and gilded slip frame Paper size: 29 x 21 cm (11 ¼ x 8 ¼ in) Frame size: 42 x 34 cm (16 ½ by 14 in) Provenance: Private Collection, Dorset, England The 1813 portrait of Lord Byron, painted by Richard Westall - which this watercolour is a copy of by an unknown artist - stands as one of the definitive images of the Romantic era. Created at the absolute zenith of the poet's fame - just after the meteoric success of 'Childe Harold's Pilgrimage' catapulted him into unprecedented celebrity - the picture did not merely record Byron's physical features; it institutionalised the very concept of the 'Byronic hero'. The image was highly praised by those who knew him well and spawned a craze for engraved editions which probably was the basis for this striking watercolour portrait. Byron is captured in a half-length profile, seated in a pose of deep thought and contemplation. He rests his chin upon his hand, his gaze fixed on some distant, unseen point. The poet is swathed in a red cloak over a dark velvet jacket, clothing that enhances his pale complexion and the dark intensity of his features. By utilizing a dramatic, shadowed backdro...

Seller Details

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