

SA145400

SOLD....Portrait of a Young Boy
with a Hoop c.1826; Attributed
to Sir John Watson Gordon.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA145400

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Description

Oil on canvas in period gilt frame. A charming image of a young boy about to bowl his hoop along the ground. This excellent portrait has the simple sincerity for which Gordon was noted. SIR JOHN WATSON GORDON, RA. PRSA. (1788 -1864) was a Scottish portrait painter and a president of the Royal Scottish Academy. He was born John Watson in Edinburgh, the eldest son of Captain Watson, R.N., a cadet of the family of Watson of Overmains, in the county of Berwick. He showed a natural aptitude for art, and his father was persuaded to allow him to adopt it as his profession. Captain Watson was himself a skilful draughtsman, and his brother George Watson, afterwards president of the Royal Scottish Academy, was a highly-respected portrait painter, second only to Sir Henry Raeburn, who was also a friend of the family. In 1808 John exhibited a picture "The Lay of the Last Minstrel" at the Lyceum in Nicolson Street, Edinburgh - the first public exhibition of paintings in that city - and continued for some years to exhibit fancy subjects; but, although freely and sweetly painted, they were altogether without the force and character which stamped his portrait pictures as the works of...

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