

SA145908

**Portrait of Thomas Wright
1739: by John Theodore Heins.**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA145908

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in a fine quality carved and giltwood frame. In 1949 Christie's stated that the portrait was signed and dated 1739, lower left, and in the entries in the two reference books mentioned below the same statement is made, and again stated in an old handwritten label verso. However, now only some faint marks can be seen. This excellent portrait is typical of the best work of Heins. The sitter, Thomas Wright of Wighton, Norfolk, looks confidently out at the viewer, his tricorne hat held as if just removed to courteously greet us....the very model of a fashionably and expensively dressed gentleman of the early Georgian era. There is an elegant swagger to the pose, but no bluster; a gracious dignity was paramount at this time. Even so, Thomas has taken care to sweep back his coat to display the large quantities of silver lace on his silk waistcoat. His silver hilted sword, the mark of a gentleman, is also on discreet display. Thomas married Anne, the daughter of the Reverend William Wilson, Rector of Stiffkey. Their daughter Anne married Captain Thomas Lee Warner of Walsingham. Thomas Wright died in 1762, 23 years after Heins painted this portrait. His death was...

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