

SA221486

SOLD....Portrait of a Royal Navy captain c.1810; Follower of Sir Thomas Lawrence.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA221486

Date of manufacture: 1800

Description

Oil on unlined canvas in good quality original frame. The officer wears a single epaulette on the right shoulder, the mark of a captain of less than three years seniority; the portrait was possibly painted to mark the promotion of this young man from lieutenant to captain. His sword by his side, his right hand holds a telescope, whilst to his left is a cannon. This sensitive yet bravura portrait of a young Royal Naval officer painted during the Napoleonic War is typical of Lawrence's dramatic style; the background a windswept cloudiness, the sense of incipient action and danger. The artist has overcome the restrictions of the small scale of the portrait by infusing it with a dynamic movement - a sense of drama for dramatic times. This is apparent in every aspect, from the turn of the sitter's neck and the tousled 'Classical Roman' hairstyle - all revealing the debt to, and interest in, Classical sculpture and form which defined the taste of the age. This is a memorable painting of a young naval officer whose chosen career was one of considerable danger at a time when the British Isles were in great peril. There is an urgency to the image and the unspoken drama that the...

Internal Ref: 8723

Seller Details

Roy Precious - Antiques & Fine Art

Wiltshire United Kingdom



Tel: 01249 815048 or 07710 222273

International Tel: +44 1249 815048 or +44 7710 222273