

SA30969

**SOLD...Portrait of a
Midshipman c.1810; Circle of
Sir Thomas Lawrence**

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA30969

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in original Neo-Classical frame. SIR THOMAS LAWRENCE (1769-1830) was the most remarkable British portrait painter of his day. He became an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1791, Member in 1794 and President in 1820. In 1792 he was made Painter to the King. Lawrence's work epitomised the Regency style. 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 sable curls on the forehead, the parted lips and brilliant eyes which were to indicate 'the more private sensibilities of the heart'. Lawrence overcame the restrictions of the head and shoulders portrait by infusing it with a dynamic and sensual 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 very young naval officer whose chosen career was one of great danger. There is an urgency to the image and the unspoken drama t...

Seller Details

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