

SA436137

Portrait of John Hunter, c.1815;
Follower of Sir Henry Raeburn
(1756-1823)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA436137

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 131 cm (51.6")

Width = 106 cm (41.7")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

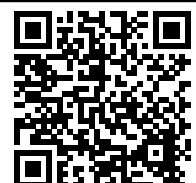
Description

Oil on canvas. An impressive large scale portrait of the Scottish classical scholar, Professor John Hunter (1745-1837) seated in an interior with a large red curtain and books on a table alluding to his profession. Hunter was Principal at United College, St Andrew University and was elected professor of humanity there in 1775, a post he held until nearly 60 years. He famously quoted: "Is there one whom difficulties dishearten--who bend's to the storm? He will do little. Is there one who will conquer? That kind of man never fails". Hunter published Caesar's *De bello Gallico et civili commentarii* in 1809 and his edition of Virgil one year later. Hunter's edition of *Historiarum libri quinque priores* enjoyed a scholarly reputation for much of the 19th century. Painted large scale this portrait was intended to impress. The composition was a formula that was oft used by Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823) for the gentry of his native Scotland and London society. They share broad similarities such as the seated pose, the sitter's direct gaze, and an emphatically stretched arm. They exhibit the same palette of black and white for the sitter's dress, a red damask chair, and a...

Seller Details

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