

SA457088

Portrait said to be of Sarah Wilson c.1750; Attributed to Allan Ramsay.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA457088

Date of manufacture: 1750

Dimensions

Height = 95 cm (37.4")

Width = 81 cm (31.9")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Oil on canvas in an excellent 18th century carved and giltwood frame. Inscribed lower right 'Sarah Wilson'. The sitter depicted within a feigned oval. This is a fine quality portrait and is typical of Ramsay's work in the mid 18th century; as usual, the fabrics are so well painted one can almost 'feel' them. Ramsay often employed the famous specialist drapery painter Joseph van Aken. The frame is a work of art in its own right, beautifully carved by a master craftsman. The later inscription claims the sitter to be Sarah Wilson, by repute the daughter of Christopher Wilson and heiress of Bradyll Dodding (1689-1748) of Conishead Priory, Cumbria. She married John Gale of Highcap Castle and had three children - Thomas Richmond Gale, Henry Richmond Gale and Margaret Gale. Her sister Mary married into the Wharton family. ALLAN RAMSAY 1713-1784. Ramsay was born in Edinburgh. His father, also Allan Ramsay, was an important Scottish poet from whom the younger Ramsay inherited a tradition of strong nationalistic pride. Ramsay junior was instrumental in formulating a native Scottish style of painting, as his father had done for poetry. Ramsay studied in London at St Martin's Lan...

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