

SA522312

**Portrait of a Girl Feeding a Deer
c.1720, by Thomas Gibson.**

Price

GBP 9,850

| USD \$13,329 | EUR 11,525

Item Reference: SA522312

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 150 cm (59.1")

Width = 114 cm (44.9")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

Oil on canvas in a period carved giltwood frame. This is a charming portrait of a girl of a wealthy family depicted feeding a deer; the animal may have been a pet but is more likely to be symbolic. In the Christian world, the deer is a symbol of piety, devotion and of God taking care of his children; in mythology the female deer symbolizes beauty, femininity, gentleness and grace. The blossoming rose to the left of the girl is a symbol of her youth, beauty and future fruitfulness. The sitter wears fashionable clothes trimmed with very expensive lace. THOMAS GIBSON c1680-1751. He was a leading portrait painter by 1711, painting much in the style of Sir Godfrey Kneller (Principal Painter to the Royal Court), when he was appointed a founding director of Godfrey Kneller's Academy in London; among his pupils there was George Vertue. Gibson's sitters included a number of important public figures: Dr Henry Sacheverell (1710; Oxford, Magdalen Coll.), John Flamsteed (1712; Oxford, Bodleian Lib.), Sir Robert Walpole (untraced; engr. G. Bockman), Archbishop William Wake (Oxford, Christ Church Picture Gallery) and Archbishop John Potter (London, Lambeth Palace). His most constan...

Internal Ref: 9052

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