

SA701813

Portrait of a Lady and Child
c.1830; Circle of George Henry
Harlow (1787-1819)

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA701813

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 115 cm (45.3")

Width = 95 cm (37.4")

Depth = 4 cm (1.6")

Description

This exquisite double portrait of a mother and her child is a touching and intimate portrayal of a mother's affection. Female beauty was much prized in the 19th Century. For the first time, large numbers of pictures were painted whose sole raison d'être was a depiction of such beauty; not so much in the form of specific portraiture, but more as a homage to feminine beauty in its own right and many artists worked in this genre. This portrait can be dated to c.1830 as the combination of sloping shoulders and the very large gathered sleeves that cover most of the arm (narrowing to a small cuff at the wrist) is quite distinctive of the day dresses of the 1830s. During this period the pleated panels of fabric that trim the gown around the bust and shoulders, and the method of gathering fullness in the large sleeves was popular. Up to 1836 the waist was accentuated with a round waistband - as in the present portrait - and then it was replaced with a pointed bodice (and the sleeves were a little smaller). The work shows all the vigour and style of George Henry Harlow; the clear fresh palette, the bright eyes, the beautiful rendering. The intimacy and the tenderness of thi...

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