

SA87107

Portrait of a Girl with her Pet Dog c.1780; Follower of Thomas Hickey

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA87107

Date of manufacture:

Description

Oil on canvas in giltwood frame. An attractive portrait of a girl with a dog on her lap; the dog may have been her pet but equally may be present as a symbol of trustworthiness and fidelity. THOMAS HICKEY (1741 - 1824) was born in Dublin, he studied under Benjamin West at Dublin Society Schools 1753-6, winning prizes. He travelled to Italy c.1760-6, returning to Dublin in 1767 where he exhibited 1768-70. He moved to London and entered the Royal Academy Schools in 1771, exhibiting at the RA 16 times between 1772 and 1792. In 1778 Hickey was working in Bath then embarked for India in 1780, but the ship was captured by the French en route and he was released at Cadiz. He proceeded by land to Lisbon, where he worked successfully 1782-4 before continuing on to India, arriving in Bengal in 1784. He took a large, handsome house in the most fashionable part of Calcutta and established a thriving business. Hickey returned to England in June 1791; he was portrait painter to Lord Macartney's expedition to China 1792-4. Probably in Dublin in 1796, returning to India in 1798, where he had a successful portrait practice until his death; he was buried in Madras 20 May 1824. SIZE: 27...

Internal Ref: 8541

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