

SA924770

Portrait of Ann Bosquet c.1785,
Studio or Circle of Richard
Cosway.

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA924770

Date of manufacture: 18th Century

Dimensions

Height = 102 cm (40.2")

Width = 89.2 cm (35.1")

Depth = 7.5 cm (3.0")

Description

Oil on canvas in an 18th century carved and giltwood frame. This is a fine and sensitive portrait of an attractive young sitter within an 18th century French frame of superb quality, carved with great skill, and gilded. The modest, almost serene, image of Ann Bosquet is in exciting contrast to the richness of the costly frame. Ann wears very fashionable clothing and pearls in her hair. Recorded as Bosket, Boscott, Boskett, but ultimately BOSQUET, this is a French Huguenot refugee surname. It is a very good example of these surnames which formed such an important part of the changing social and industrial scenes of the late 17th and all of the 18th century. Up to this time France had been rivalled only by Spain for the world leadership, but after about the year 1705 the picture changed completely, and the power swung to the British. The Huguenots were Protestants in Catholic France. They were also the skilled merchants and artisans of France and, perhaps surprisingly, their most effective military leaders. However religious fundamentalism took over, and some fifty thousand Protestants were driven from the country, most coming to Britain. They arrived just in time for the...

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