

SA961412

William Owen RA 1769-1825
Portrait of a Young Lady seated
in a Landscape in a white dress
and Coral Necklace holding her
Hat

Price

GBP 3,500

| USD \$4,739 | EUR 4,095

Item Reference: SA961412**Date of manufacture: 19th Century**

Dimensions

Height = 76.2 cm (30.0")

Width = 63.5 cm (25.0")

Depth = 2 cm (0.8")

Description

William Owen RA 1769-1825 Portrait of a Young Lady seated in a Landscape in a white dress and Coral Necklace holding her Hat oil on canvas 76.20 x 63.50 cm. Mostly found in the Mediterranean Sea, coral grows 4-100 meters from the surface. It is composed mostly of calcium carbonate, colored red by carotenoid pigments (Wiki). The stone must be polished, as it usually matte-colored. Control of the areas from which coral could be mined often led to fierce competition between different countries, especially in the 18th and 19th centuries. The deeper meaning of coral leads back to ancient Romans. The story of Perseus, the sea monster, tells that coral the petrified seaweed covered in the blood of Medusa's head. Poseidon used the stone in his palace as well, making coral a prominent component of mythology. The Romans believed in the luck of coral, a sentiment revived by the Victorian era. Children often wore the stone, with the belief that it could cure snake bites or poison. The Etruscan revival in the 19th century brought coral front and center in jewelry, especially from 1845 Italy. Honestly, it had not gone anywhere; the Georgian and Regency eras show a propensity towards t...

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