Portrait of an Officer

Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A.

Sold



REF: 3160

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Description

Guy Peppiatt Fine Art Ltd.
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Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. (1769-1830)
Portrait of an Officer

Three-quarter length, seated by a window, wearing a red coat and black tricorn hat
Signed, dated and inscribed verso on the original backing sheet: This Portrait/must be kept from/the sun and the Damp/T. Lawrence pinxt/10. Feby 1787
Oval 32.4 by 26.5 cm., 12 ¾ by 10 ½ in.

Provenance:
Monsieur H. Winterfeld, Nice;
Sotheby's London, 9 December 1936, lot 97, bt. Reitlinger

Literature:
Kenneth Garlick, 'A Catalogue of the Paintings, Drawings and Pastels of Sir Thomas Lawrence', Walpole Society, vol. XXXIX, 1964, p.266

This early work by Lawrence dates from the last few months of his time in Bath when he was aged eighteen. From the age of eleven, when his father was declared bankrupt, he was the main breadwinner of the family. He would produce three or four small pastel portraits a week, usually oval in shape, and sell them for three guineas a time. The present pastel is dated 10th February 1787 - later that year he moved to London and began to work in oil.

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