

Fine Art / Wed, 8th December 2021 / Lot 98



LOT 98

John Opie R.A. - Three-quarter Length Portrait of Captain Robert Beauchamp-Proctor, oil on canvas, circa 1803, 75cm x 62cm, within a gilt composition frame of wide section. Note: Robert, third son of Sir Thomas Beauchamp-Proctor, 2nd Bart., by Mary his wife, daughter of Robert Palmer of Sonning, Berks; born 1st April, 1787; Captain in the E.I.C. Artillery. He died in India 23rd May, 1813. Provenance: Langley Park, Norfolk, by descent within the Beauchamp-Proctor family. References: described and illustrated in Prince Frederick Duleep Singh's 'Portraits in Norfolk Houses' (Jarrold and Sons, 1928), p.376.

Estimate: £8,000 - £12,000

Condition Report

98. Relined, cleaned and restored. Craquelure throughout including to the face of the sitter. Previous cleans have left the paint to the background a little thin in areas. UV examination highlights thick overpainting around the edges of the canvas, presumably part of the relining process. Also highlighted is an area near the top button around the lapel and touches of lighter overpainting elsewhere, slightly trickier to distinguish due to the green blooming of the varnish which is also highlighted by the UV. This varnish is uneven and dulling inconsistently, with some discolouration too. The surface has a light pitted appearance in places as if affected slightly by damp or mould. To the sitter's left arm is a very small split to the paint, protruding slightly and about 4cm long.

The frame is in fair condition, but has a few crude restorations and repairs to the mouldings. The gilt is flaking throughout and some small pieces of composition are lacking, but disguised.

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