

**PAINTING ATTRIBUTED TO 'FOLLOWER OF JOSHUA REYNOLDS' REVEALED AS MISSING
WRIGHT OF DERBY SELF-PORTRAIT**



An 18th century painting catalogued as being by a 'Follower of Joshua Reynolds' at auction has been revealed as a genuine self-portrait by renowned British artist Joseph Wright of Derby (1734 – 1797). The discovery, a rarity for 18th century works by high-profile British artists, will be unveiled at the LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair in Berkeley Square, Mayfair, from the 15th – 20th September.

Acquired by Archie Parker of The Parker Gallery, a leading dealer in Old Master and British works of art, the painting has been traced back to 1793, when records indicate that Wright gifted it to the Rev. Thomas Gisborne of Yoxall.

Gisborne was a close friend of Wright's and had amassed an extensive collection of paintings and drawings by the artist, including a portrait featuring Gisborne and his wife, two landscapes of the Lake District (subsequently at Kedleston Hall) and a painting of Mount Vesuvius.

In 1793, Wright presented Gisborne with a self-portrait that had, until now, disappeared from view; its existence only known from a copy belonging to the collection of Sir John Crompton-inglefield. A Latin inscription on the copy's reverse reads: 'Joseph Wright the artist presented this painting by his own hand as a gift to his friend T. Gisborne in the year of Our Lord 1793 and 59th of his age'. The newly discovered self-portrait is almost certainly the missing original that inspired the copy, and was later reproduced as the frontispiece of the 1885 monograph, *The Life and Works of Joseph Wright A.R.A.* commonly called "Wright of Derby".

Background

Thomas Gisborne (1758-1846) was educated at Harrow. Scholarly and artistic, he was later admitted as a Fellow Commoner to St. John's College, Cambridge, where his immense achievements pleased his old headmaster, Dr. Heath. In celebration of his achievements, Heath arranged for Gisborne's portrait to be painted by Wright and despite their significant age difference, Gisborne struck up a friendship with the artist that was to last until the end of Wright's life.

In 1781, Gisborne was ordained a deacon and then a priest, and subsequently inherited his father's mansion at Yoxall, three miles from his church. Wright was a frequent guest at the peaceful house and produced some of his most beautiful sketches and studies while exploring the surrounding ancient oak wood. In 1793, Wright was once again staying at Yoxall when he presented Gisborne with the recently discovered self-portrait.

The annual LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair, sponsored by award-winning investment house Killik & Co, returns to Berkeley Square, London, for its 2017 edition from Friday 15th to Wednesday 20th September – this year bridging two weeks – and will showcase a fascinating array of one-of-a-kind works of art,

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antiques, design, jewellery and decorative art.

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

Event: LAPADA Art & Antiques Fair 2017
Dates: Friday 15th September – Wednesday 20th September 2017
Location: Berkeley Square, Mayfair, W1J 6EB
Website: lapadalondon.com
Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7823 3511
Opening Hours: Collectors' Preview: Thursday 14th September 2017: 3pm – 8.30pm*
Friday 15th September 2017: 11am – 8pm
Saturday 16th September 2017: 11am – 7pm
Sunday 17th September 2017: 11am – 7pm
Monday 18th September 2017: 11am – 8pm
Tuesday 19th September 2017: 11am – 8pm
Wednesday 20th September 2017: 11am – 7pm
Admission: Entrance by ticket priced at £20 each or by invitation
By invitation or £65 each for Collectors' Preview tickets
Underground: Green Park - Jubilee, Victoria & Piccadilly lines
Bond Street - Central & Jubilee lines
Major bus routes: via Piccadilly, Regent Street and Oxford Street



LAPADA
THE ASSOCIATION OF
ART & ANTIQUES DEALERS

LAPADA the Association of Art & Antiques Dealers is the largest society of professional art and antiques dealers in the UK. It is a trusted resource for private collectors and the art and antiques trade in the UK and 16 other countries around the world. Established in 1974 it boasts over 500 worldwide members, who are experts in their fields, with specialities ranging from fine art, jewellery and furniture to contemporary works, sculpture and ceramics. Due to the Association's strict Code of Practice, clients are offered total reassurance when purchasing from a LAPADA member. LAPADA offers a referral service for any member of the public looking for a trusted dealer in a specific area, who is seeking quality and assurance of authenticity. It also offers industry advice and lobbies on issues affecting its members and good practice in the art and antiques trade. In 2015, LAPADA launched its newly developed website, which is the leading online marketplace for sourcing authentic art and antiques from trusted LAPADA-accredited dealers. lapada.org

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The Ashmolean is Oxford University's museum of art and archaeology. Opened in 1683, the Ashmolean is the oldest public museum in the world. The Museum has incredibly rich and diverse collections from around the globe, ranging from Egyptian mummies and classical sculpture to the Pre Raphaelites and modern art, telling human stories across cultures and across time. Admission to the Museum is free.



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The Arts Society (previously the National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, or NADFAS) brings people together through a shared curiosity for the arts. Offering a range of events providing local, national and global places to hear expert lecturers share their specialist knowledge about the arts, it has a 90,000 strong membership. Contributing to and preserving our artistic heritage through volunteering and grants, its members share the belief that the arts have the potential to enrich peoples' lives – an ethos that is at the heart of everything the society does. theartsociety.org

English Sparkling Wine partner

GUSBOURNE

Founded in 2004, Gusbourne is an award-winning English Sparkling Wine producer based in Appledore in Kent. Its dedicated wine-making team combine traditional techniques with the latest technology to produce the finest sparkling wines. Its wines are sold through leading stockists such as Berry Bros & Rudd, Selfridges and Fortnum & Mason and feature in many of the UK's most renowned establishments, including Le Manoir Aux Quat' Saisons, The Fat Duck and Le Gavroche. Gusbourne exports to locations across the world including the USA, UAE, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Austria and Denmark. gusbourne.com

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Dining and Events

Berkeley Square London Dry Gin, named after Mayfair's famous square, is considered to be the one of the world's most luxurious gins. The Master Distiller uses over 250 years of heritage and expertise at Britain's oldest gin distillers, to hand-craft the gin in small batches in a copper pot still. During the slow distillation, a unique combination of lavender, sage and basil is wrapped in a

'bouquet garni' and added to the purest of water. The result is a gin of exceptional quality, smooth enough to sip neat and reputed to make the world's best martini. berkeleysquaregin.com

NEWBY
LONDON

For thousands of years, tea enjoyed a glorious status in the lives of those fortunate enough to enjoy it. But, with the increasing industrialisation of the tea trade throughout the 20th century, its status was diminished as big brands compromised on quality for commercial gain. As the new millennium approached, Newby was founded with a mission to source, blend, preserve and serve the world's finest teas, and revive the rich culture associated with tea's golden era.

The best leaves from prime harvest seasons are selected, and Newby's committed tea tasters create exquisite blends by trying thousands of cups. The quality of its blends is preserved in a state-of-the-art centre at the heart of the world's finest tea-growing regions. Each tea is then sealed in multi-layered sachets to preserve its freshness and character.

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This dedication to quality has led to Newby Teas winning more than 100 awards, and establishing a network of offices across the globe. Its teas are served in five star hotels, cultural institutions and Michelin-starred restaurants, and sold in

high-profile retailers such as Harrods. Newby's Silken Pyramids range can be found in Waitrose and online at newbyteas.co.uk

Fair Design



Micha Weidmann Studio

Founded in 2001, Micha Weidmann Studio is an art direction and design studio based in London. It has built a reputation for producing engaging, iconic and memorable campaigns for its clients that deliver core messages in the most engaging and timeless form. With the wealth of experience brought by Swiss founder, Micha Weidmann, the studio has an in-depth understanding of the visual cues that make high-end brands aspirational, while also being able to provide design solutions in order to retain the integrity of the philosophy behind the brands. Its clients are found in the property, design and arts industries, including high-end luxury brands: Christie's, Clarges Mayfair, RA Magazine, Dom Perignon, Fornasetti, Tate Modern and Zaha Hadid Architects. michaweidmannstudio.com

Floral partner



When Kally Ellis set up McQueens in 1991, she had one aim in mind. "I wanted to sell simple, stylish flowers, beautifully presented, to the London market. And I knew people would love it."

Kally drew on her business experience working in the marketing team of a large international French merchant bank. With a strong sense of colour and design, and a genuine passion for flowers, it has proved to be a winning combination, establishing McQueens as the premier name in the UK flower market – and beyond.

"It never fails to surprise me when I receive calls about our flowers from Hollywood and Japan," says Kally. "It's amazing to think that from a small shop in Clerkenwell, we've built a reputation for quality and innovation that's known the world over. Yes, I'm very proud of what we've achieved."

McQueens and McQueens Flower School is located in Bethnal Green, London. Their boutique store is located in Claridge's Hotel. mcqueens.co.uk

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