Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Early 19th-Century English Portrait Watercolour Miniature of a Lady, Circa 1830

£95

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 7780

Height: 8.5 cm (3.3")

Width: 7 cm (2.8")

Framed Height: 14.5 cm (5.7")

Framed Width: 13 cm (5.1")

Description

A charming early 19th-century portrait miniature in watercolour, depicting an elegantly dressed English lady, presented within a restrained ebony frame and dating to circa 1830. Delicately executed on a small scale, the portrait captures the intimacy and refinement that make miniature painting one of the most personal and evocative art forms of the Georgian and early Victorian periods.

The sitter is shown with the composed expression and careful attention to dress typical of the period. Fine brushwork gives definition to the features, hair, and costume, while the soft translucency of watercolour lends the portrait a gentle luminosity. The artist has created a sense of character within the small format, preserving not only a likeness but also the quiet dignity and fashionable sensibility of the age.

The simple ebony frame provides a handsome contrast to the lightness of the painted image. Its dark, understated finish focuses attention on the portrait and gives the miniature a smart, architectural presence when displayed. Such portraits were often commissioned as treasured personal mementoes, kept within the family or exchanged between loved ones, making them particularly resonant survivors of private 19th-century life.

A graceful and decorative example of English portraiture from around 1830, ideal for a collection of portrait miniatures, Georgian and Regency art, or antique decorative objects. Equally appealing as a single object on a desk, mantelpiece, or within a grouped wall display.

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