Portrait of Godfrey Winn

Alfred Aaron Wolmark

Sold



REF: 315429

Height: 86.36 cm (34")

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Width: 63.5 cm (25")

Framed Height: 149.86 cm (59")

Framed Width: 124.46 cm (49")

Description

Alfred Aaron Wolmark was born in Warsaw. His family fled the pogroms of Eastern Europe and moved to England, living first in Devon before settling in Spitalfields. He became a British citizen in 1894. He studied at the Royal Academy Schools, exhibiting there 1901-1936. His first one-man exhibition was held at the Bruton Galleries in 1905. After a visit to France, he became influenced by modern French Post-Impressionist works, using vibrant colours in his paintings. His work was included in Roger Fry's influential International Society of Artists exhibition at the Grafton Gallery in 1910. A gifted portraitist, his sitters included Thomas Hardy, Aldous Huxley and G K Chesterton. He is represented in the collections of the National Portrait Gallery, Tate Gallery and elsewhere. A retrospective exhibition of his work was held at the Ferens Art Gallery, Hull, in 1975. Godfrey Herbert Winn (1906-1971) was an English journalist, writer and actor. Born in Worcestershire, he studied at King Edward's School, Birmingham. His career on the stage began when he was spotted by Sir Edward Marsh in an amateur production. He first appeared on the London stage in 1924 in Galsworthy's Old English at the Haymarket Theatre. He then played St Joan in Noel Coward's The Marquise at the Criterion. As a journalist he wrote columns for the Daily Mirror and the Sunday Express, where he wrote "Dear Abby" articles. They resulting in his nickname "Winifred God" because of his popularity with women readers and made him the most highly paid journalist in Fleet Street in 1938. He was the first British war correspondent to cross the Maginot Line in 1939. During the Second World War he served in the Royal Navy, publishing his memories of the time in Home From the Sea in 1943. He wrote for television, films and for many newspapers and articles. He also wrote many books and made regular appearances on radio and television. He was an accomplished bridge and tennis player and had a wide circle of good friends including Vivian Leigh and Somerset Maugham.

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