SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

Cecil Beaton - Blue Suit - Costume Design for Coco

Cecil Beaton

£1,800



REF: 3151

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Description

SIR CECIL BEATON, CBE(1904-1980)
Blue Suit - Costume Design for Coco - 1969
Signed l.r.: BeatonWatercolour over pencil on blue/grey paperFramed
32 by 16.5 cm., 12 ½ by 6 ½ in.(frame size 53.5 by 37.5 cm., 21 by 14 ¾ in.)
Provenance:With Michael Parkin Fine Art, London;Purchased by Roy Astley, 1983.
Exhibited:London, Michael Parkin Fine Art, Cecil Beaton Memorial Exhibition, 1983, no.203.
Cecil Walter Hardy Beaton was a fashion and portrait photographer, diarist, interior designer and stage and costume designer for the stage and screen. He was born in Hampstead and educated at Harrow and St John's College, Cambridge although he left without a degree in 1925. He worked as a photographer for fashion magazines and became an extremely popular and well-connected society portraitist who also recorded the gathering of his friends among the Bright Young Things of the 20s and 30s. After the war Beaton started designing stage sets and costumes for London and Broadway. His most lauded achievement for the stage being the costume for Lerner and Loewe's 1956 production of My Fair Lady.
The musical Coco, with lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner and music by Andre Previn was inspired by the life of Coco Chanel. It starred Katharine Hepburn, in her only stage musical and open on Broadway in December 1969. Beaton designed 250 costumes, based on those of Coco Chanel. He also designed a highly complicated stage set involving moving mirrors, platform and runways. It was the most expensive Broadway production at the time.