George Richmond - The Daughters of Darius

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£2,800



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Description

GEORGE RICHMOND, RA(1809-1896)
The Daughters of Darius
PencilFramed
42.5 by 26.5 cm.; 16 ¾ by 10 ½ in.(frame size 62 by 44.5 cm., 24 ½ by 17 ½ in.)
Provenance:The estate of Walter Coleridge Richmond (1852-1931) and thence by descent.
George Richmond was the son of the miniature painter Thomas Richmond and father of the painter William Blake Richmond. He entered the Royal Academy Schools at the age of 15 and it was there that he met Samuel Palmer and Edward Calvert. Palmer and Calvert introduced him to William Blake who had a profound influence on his work. Together with Palmer, Calvert and others he formed a Blake-influenced group known as “The Ancients”. From the early 1830s he began to turn more to the portraiture in watercolour and chalks for which he is now so well known.
The present drawing was executed during Richmond’s 1837-1840 visit to Italy. He and his family, accompanied by the newly married Samuel Palmer and his wife, visited Rome, Naples and the Tuscan cities. When in Rome he made studies of great Renaissance frescos. This group of figures is after an early cinquecento fresco by Giovanni Antonio Bazzi, “Il Sodoma”, from his series of large scenes from the life of Alexander the Great in the Farnesina Palace, Rome. This particular group, showing the daughters of the defeated Darius, appear on the left-hand side of the panel depicting the marriage of Alexander to Roxanne.