

SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

Lady Teazle - Oliver Messel

Oliver Messel

Sold



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Description

OLIVER MESSEL(1904-1978)

Lady Teazle – A Costume Design for The School for Scandal

Signed and inscribed: Lady Teazle, 1st Dress Watercolour and chalks heightened with gold paint Framed
35 by 24 cm.; 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. (frame size 58 by 45 cm., 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ by 17 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.)

A costume design for Lady Teazle in Richard Sheridan's *School for Scandal* (1777). Messel produced costume and set designs for the 1958 production, directed by Sam Besekow and first performed at the Det Ny Theatre, Copenhagen. It featured Bodil Kjer as Lady Teazle.

Born in London, Messel was the grandson of the illustrator Linley Sambourne. After Eton he studied art at the Slade School of Art and by the early 1930s had established himself as one of Britain's principal stage designers. Initially working for the Cochran Revues, he went on to design for many theatrical, operatic, ballet and film productions. His books included *Stage Designs and Costumes*, 1933; *Designs for A Midsummer Night's Dream*, 1957 and *Delightful Food*, 1958. He exhibited at the Leicester Galleries and Redfern Gallery and also designed interiors and gardens of the Dorchester Hotel, Flaxley Abbey, Gloucestershire and elsewhere as well as several houses and grounds in Barbados and Mustique. The Victoria & Albert Museum hold the majority of his design archives.