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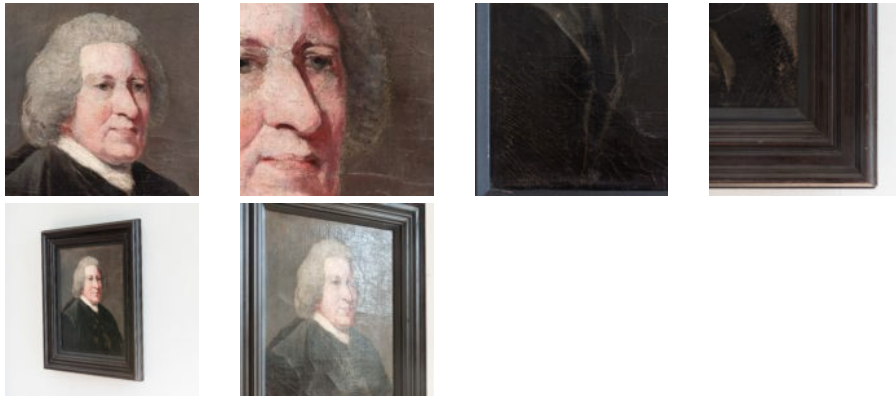
DR. JOHNSON AFTER JOSHUA REYNOLDS

Oil-on-canvas portrait

Relined canvas, presented in an ebonised frame.

DIMENSIONS: 68cm (26^{3⁄4}") High, 58cm (22^{3⁄4}") Wide, 5cm (2") Deep

STOCK CODE: A072



HISTORY

Samuel Johnson was born in 1709 in Lichfield, Staffordshire, become one of the greatest literary figures of the eighteenth century, most famously compiling *A Dictionary of the English Language*. He completed a critical edition of the works of William Shakespeare and created biographies and critical appraisals of 52 English poets of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries for his *Lives of the Poets*.

Johnson gained a pension from George III in 1762, allowing him a more comfortable lifestyle, giving him time for travelling and talking Well known for his robust character and challenging and often hilarious conversation, Johnson was a sociable man, being a member of several Clubs and his circle of friends included the painter Sir Joshua Reynolds.