THE LIMNER COMPANY

ANDREW PLIMER (1763 - 1837)

Portrait miniature of a young Gentleman wearing a grey coat; set in a gold locket frame, the reverse with plaited hair within blue glass surround

Circa: circa 1795

circa 1795

Watercolour on ivory (licence 6TE38Z6D)

Oval, 78 mm (3 $^{1}/_{8}$ in) high

Set in a gold locket frame, the reverse with plaited hair within blue glass surround

By the time this portrait was painted, circa 1795, Andrew Plimer was well established as an artist. He ran a successful practice from Golden Square in London's Soho, a fashionable area, and had exhibited at the Royal Academy since 1786.

Plimer produced a prolific number of miniatures during his long career, and the speed at which he worked may have been the reason he abandoned consistently signing his works after 1789. The present portrait dates to the 1790s, soon after his practice had really gathered pace.

The sitter's handsome looks follow Plimer's style of idealisation, that clearly appealed to a large clientele. His strong aquiline nose and large, shadowed eyes are typical of this. However, the brilliant white glint in his pale eyes is particularly noticeable in this appealing example.