



# Period Art



## DON'T SEARCH FOR IT. COMMISSION IT.

Wonderful period artwork donning the walls is one of the key decorative features most synonymous with listed properties. Yet, due to increasing insurance costs or original artwork moving on with former owners, many homes nowadays are left with a number of bare walls that would love to have artwork once more gracing them.

It's true that finding existing period artwork can be a time consuming and expensive pastime, however it could prove wise to consider the possibility of commissioning authentic replica artwork and frames as a cost effective and quick fix alternative.

One such company that specialises in commissioning artwork for listed and period properties is London based art boutique, Period Art. Run by husband and wife team, Tim and Anouska Bertram, the company promises to provide the ultimate solution to 'blank wall syndrome,' by offering museum quality oil reproductions to their clients' exacting wishes. With a stable of over 40 professional artists to draw from, the company proudly claims to be able to expertly replicate every artistic style from the 16th century through to the early 20th century.

As Tim Bertram told us, "Clients regularly get quite excited when it dawns on them that they really can ask for almost anything to be painted. Popular requests range from re-commissioning paintings that used to be owned by the extended family, to creating a gallery of past occupants

over the centuries, to requesting excellent replicas from their favourite artists. Experience tells us that we seem to be excellently placed to help owners who have bought period properties over the last few years and are starting to feel uncomfortable about the amount of walls that remain unfurnished. It's been a good mix of Tudor, Georgian and Victorian properties that we've created artwork for to date."

### PANEL PROBLEMS?

For rooms with existing panel mouldings or wooden panels, commissioning artwork to order instantly solves the headache of trying to find suitably sized paintings. Tim mentions "One current project, for owners of a Grade II Manor house currently undergoing extensive restoration, involves painting artwork to fit precisely into 18 different sized panel mouldings for the Drawing and Dining Rooms. The panels range from 90cm x 120cm up to 140cm x 200cm in a mixture of vertical and horizontal formats. All the artwork we're tasked with creating has a sentimental or historic connection to the building, and we're working from very old photographs to copy the exact style of the gilt frames that once filled all the panels".

### ANCESTRAL PORTRAITS, FAMILY PORTRAITS AND HOUSE PORTRAITS

With the history associated with period properties, it's easy to understand why ancestral portraits



continue to prove ever popular. Tim concludes "Working from old black and white photographs or images from old books poses no problems for our artists. Obviously it's preferable to work from the best quality images possible, however when it comes to very old family photos, available images are naturally going to be limited. It's fantastic to see these old photo transformed into stunning, colour oil paintings".

And for those owners seeking more contemporary personalised artwork, Period Art also specialise in modern family portraiture and house oil paintings.

If you'd like to explore possibilities further, Tim and Anouska do their utmost to ensure the whole commissioning process is as simple as possible. Typically, clients initially get in touch via telephone or email asking for initial guidance or to explain what their requirements are. Consultations and quotes are all provided with no charge or obligation.

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