Portrait of George III



Brief description: Stained glass window depicting George III in his coronation robes. Made by James Pearson, 1793.

This monumental image of George III (1760-1820) is a copy in glass of the portrait painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds in 1780 (Royal Academy of Arts 03/1303). The King is dressed in his ermine-trimmed coronation robes and sits in the medieval coronation chair at Westminster Abbey. King George's face is the only significant diversion from Reynolds' portrait, appearing wider and older. James Pearson (c. 1740-1838) was an Irish glass painter who specialised in large-scale copies of paintings. Pearson's stained glass was much admired for the way in which he cut large pieces of glass so that the leads could be hidden in the design. One lead, for example, runs almost invisibly along the length of the Sovereign's Sceptre with Cross the King holds in his right hand. Pearson's approach to design was not unlike that of medieval glass-painters, although his painting technique, using coloured enamel pigments, was quite different.

Object type: window

Number of objects: 1

Production date: 1793

Production period: 18th century, late

Designer: James Pearson

Manufacturer: Pearson, James 1740=1838

Dimensions: Height: 2438 mm, Width: 1499 mm

Inscription: signed and dated in various places J. Pearson

Dedication: copied after Reynolds, Joshua, Sir

Original location: Windsor Castle Windsor Berkshire England above chimney in King's dining room Windsor Castle

Acquisition: loan 1992

Acquisition source: The Royal Collection

Bibliographical references: Baylis, Sarah

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