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Gainsborough's Blue Boy: A Monograph (Paperback)

By William H Fuller

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An excerpt from the book:
 .Of all Gainsborough's pictures the Blue Boy is probably the most celebrated, and one can readily understand Miss Moser's enthusiasm, if the Blue Boy was the object of her admiration, when she exclaims, Gainsborough [was] beyond himself in a portrait of a gentleman in a Vandyke habit. It is not likely that there was more than one portrait, by Gainsborough, in a Vandyke habit in that exhibition, and if there were two, still there was only one in which Gainsborough was beyond himself. Now, the picture that Miss Moser wrote about could not have been No. 83, for that was a portrait of a lady and child; it must, therefore, have been 84 or 85. All three of these portraits were full length; so that the picture Miss Moser was describing was a full-length portrait of a gentleman in a Vandyke habit. If she had said young gentleman the identification of the Blue Boy would have been complete. It must be remembered, however, that Miss Moser was not intent upon a minute description of the...



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