

Basic Detail Report

**Title**

Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry

Artist

Jane Stuart, Gilbert Stuart

Date

1818-1828

Dimensions

Frame: 34 × 28 7/8 × 3 1/8 in. (86.4 × 73.3 × 7.9 cm)

Medium

Oil on wood panel

Classifications

Paintings

Credit Line

Purchased with funds from the Florence Scott Libbey Bequest in Memory of her Father, Maurice A. Scott

Object number

1967.140

Published References

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Park, L., *Gilbert Stuart*, New York, 1926, II, pp. 589-590, no. 630, p. 908, IV, repr. p. 387.

Downes, William Howe, "The Gilbert Stuart Exhibition in Boston," *The American Magazine of Art*, vol. XX, Jan. 1929, p. 16.

Whitley, W., *Gilbert Stuart*, Cambridge, MA, 1932, p. 165.

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Bolton, B., *American Portraits 1670-1825, Found in Massachusetts*, Boston, 1939, II, p. 313, no. 1670.

Swan, M., *The Athenaeum Gallery, 1827-1873*, Boston, 1940, p. 72.

Mount, C., *Gilbert Stuart, A Biography*, New York, 1964, pp. 307, 373.

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Meschutt, David, "Gilbert Stuart's Portraits of Thomas Jefferson," *American Art Journal*, vol. 13, no. 1, Winter 1981, p. 9, repr. fig. 5, p. 7.

Antal, Sandy, *A Wampum Denied: Procter's War of 1812*, East Lansing, MI, 1997, repr. p. 265.

Historic Americana, Terrace Park, [Cincinnati] OH, Cowan's, Nov. 15-16, 2001, lots 264, 265, pp. 43, 44.

Davis, Caryn B., "Found at Sea: How a Pair of Divers Discovered the Remains of the USS Revenge in the Waters Near Watch Hill," *Ocean House Magazine*, Sept. 2011, repr. (col.) p. 27.

Ocko, Stephanie, *Oliver Hazard Perry in the Temple of Fame*, Boston, Riverbank Press, 2012, repr. (col.) p. 89.

Exhibition History

Boston Athenaeum, *An Exhibition of Portraits Painted by the Late Gilbert Stuart, Esq.*, 1828, no. 180.

Toledo Museum of Art, *Perry Victory Centennial Exposition*, 1913.

Boston, Museum of Fine Arts, *Gilbert Stuart Memorial Exhibition*, 1928, no. 55.

Toledo Museum of Art; Buffalo, Albright-Knox Art Gallery; Detroit Institute of Arts; Cleveland Museum of Art, *Heritage and Horizon: American Painting 1776-1976*, 1976, no. 3.

Toledo Museum of Art, *Perry's Victory: The Battle of Lake Erie*, Aug. 9-Nov. 10, 2013.

Collections

Paintings

Label Text

In 1818 the Rhode Island General Assembly commissioned prominent portraitist Gilbert Stuart to paint a full-length portrait of naval officer Oliver Hazard Perry (1785–1819), a native of that state. Perry became a national hero in the War of 1812 after defeating a British squadron near Put-in-Bay, Ohio, in the Battle of Lake Erie. Though the full-length portrait was never carried out, Perry sat for this likeness just before leaving for a mission in the West Indies, where he died of yellow fever on his 34th birthday. Stuart was notorious for leaving paintings unfinished, however, and completed only the head. Years later, Stuart's 16-year-old daughter Jane completed the sky, body, and uniform of the portrait that her father had left incomplete. She had essentially grown up in her father's studio, helping him with chores like grinding pigments, while absorbing the lessons he gave to his students. This oil painting remains one of the most famous portraits of Perry.

On View

Toledo Museum of Art (2445 Monroe Street), Gallery, 29