

JEAN-FRANÇOIS HEIM
FINE ARTS

THOMAS HICKEY
Dublin 1741 - Madras 1824

YOUNG INDIAN WEARING A TURBAN

Oil on canvas
H. 0,44 m; W. 0,38 m

DATE: ca. 1800

PROVENANCE:
Private collection

This portrait of a young man wearing a turban was probably painted at the very end of the 18th century. The Irish Thomas Hickey was a travelling painter who worked in India during the 1780s and from 1798 to his death in 1824. In comparing our portrait with that of *Purniya, Prime Minister of Mysore* painted by the artist around 1801, we find similarities especially in the treatment of the eyes.



Thomas Hickey, *Purniya, Prime Minister of Mysore*, oil on canvas, H. 1,27 m; W. 1,00 m, ca. 1801, Yale Center for British Art (accession number B1973.1.22).

The British painter Tilly Kettle (1735-1786) had been the first English portrait painter to travel to India. Kettle and other European artists introduced easel painting and oil painting to India, a country at the time under the dominion of the British East India Company.