An art patron and his housemaid: William Mulready's portrait of John Sheepshanks

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Abstract
The article focuses on the painting Interior, Portrait of John Sheepshanks which was painted by 19th-century British artist William Mulready and commissioned by the sitter, a patron of contemporary British art. The article discusses the relationship of the men, the representation of Sheepshanks's wealth in the portrait and the significance of the maid in the painting. The article goes on to discuss portraits of unidentified domestic servants and Sheepshanks's generosity towards his staff

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