



## Portrait of a Man

### Date

1804

### Primary Maker

John Ritto Penniman

### Medium

oil on canvas

### Description

Portrait of a Man is a half-length view of a man turned three-quarters left and looking forward. His brown hair is combed in wisps that fall across his forehead and the upper parts of his cheeks. The sitter's proper right eyebrow arches higher than the left one above his pale blue eyes. His face is nearly round, though it narrows slightly at the chin. A light coming from the right side casts shadows behind and to the left of his nose and neck cloth. The man's costume consists of a black coat worn over a red waistcoat and white shirt with a stiffly starched collar. The outfit is ornamented with a simple white stock, a white bow, and a white shirt ruffle. Penniman conveyed the texture of these textiles with long brushstrokes of white over gray paint. The portrait is painted

in an oval format with black spandrel corners. The background is a loosely defined landscape with a peach and blue sky at upper left, water at lower left, and a tree behind the man's shoulder at upper right.

### Dimensions

canvas: 73.7 x 61.3 cm (29 x 24 1/8 in.)