

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06907-6 - *The Life of Sir Joshua Reynolds: Late President of the Royal Academy: Comprising Original Anecdotes of Many Distinguished Persons, his Contemporaries, and a Brief Analysis of his 'Discourses': Volume 2*

James Northcote

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The Life of Sir Joshua Reynolds

A fellow Devonian, James Northcote (1746–1831) was an admirer and pupil of Sir Joshua Reynolds, whose two-volume biography he published in 1813–15. Reissued here is the 'revised and augmented' second edition of 1818. Northcote is self-deprecating as to his fitness for the task, but claims that a worthy biography of a great artist can be written only by another artist, and his close personal knowledge of his subject and the circle in which Reynolds moved gives him insights, as well as providing anecdotes, which would not be available to a more 'professional' author. Volume 2 covers the remainder of Reynolds' life, including a description of his elaborate funeral and various assessments of his work, as well as details of the sale of his paintings, and a short account of the life of William Gandy, an obscure seventeenth-century painter whom Reynolds greatly admired.

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James Northcote Esq. R.A.

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LATE PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.
COMPRISING
Original Anecdotes
OF MANY DISTINGUISHED PERSONS,
HIS CONTEMPORARIES;
AND A
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BY
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To Mr Northcote

London Sep. 3 1776

Dear Sir

I am very much obliged to you for your kind remembrance of me, and am very glad to hear of your great success, which you very well deserve, and I have no doubt but you will meet with the same encouragement when you come to settle in London which I hope you do not forget, Here is the place where you must think of setting up your self after you have made a short trip (at best) to Italy which your success at Portsmouth and Plymouth will enable you to accomplish If I can ever be of any service to you you know you may command me

Yours sincerely

Joshua Reynolds

I beg when you write to Mrs Northcote you would thank her for her present

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