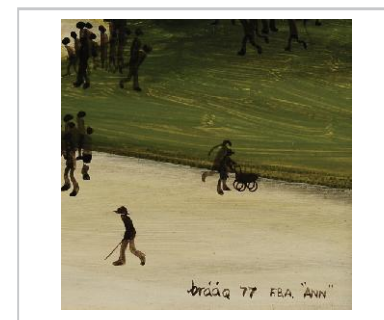


BRIAN SHIELDS (BRAAQ) - "THE LAST DAY OF THE FAIR" - REF 2135



A busy afternoon scene set on the last day of Goole Fair, Yorkshire - painted by Liverpool artist – Brian Shields.

Brian Shields was born in Liverpool in 1951, His father Dennis Shields was a highly regarded artist but on account of having twelve children was unable to support his family through painting alone. Brian's eldest brother pursued a successful career in America as a sculptor. The name 'Ann' after his own signature was his sister who died at the young age of 21 and to whose memory all of his subsequent paintings were dedicated.

The unusual name of 'braaq' is a misspelling of the famous French artist Braque which, on account of his artistic talent as a boy, was his nickname at school. Brian held his first exhibition in 1974. In 1977 he was invited to hold his first of four exhibitions in London's West End. It was after this exhibition that 'The Times' described him as "one of the six most successful artists in England". All Brian's paintings are based, in a humorous way, on his childhood memories of Liverpool. He frequently painted himself as a boy wearing a striped jumper. In 1997 at the age of 46 Brian died, leaving a contribution to the art world which ranks him among the leading artists in the country.

PRICE: £14,900

Provenance: Private collection North Yorkshire

Artist & Painting: **Brian Shields (aka BRAAQ)**, British (1951-1997) – "The Last Day of the Fair" – signed lower right, oil on board, dated 1977.

Dimensions of Image: 17½" wide, 13½" high; 44cm wide, 34cm high.

Restorations: The painting has been lightly cleaned and reframed in a late 20th century style frame.

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