Landscape in the Campagna with a distant Bridge and Mountains

John Varley O.W.S

Sold



REF: 1163

Height: 11 cm (4.3")

Width: 33 cm (13")

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Framed Height: 32 cm (12.6")

Framed Width: 52 cm (20.5")

Description

This harmonious composition of an ancient Italian landscape, conjured up from his imagination and immense artistic experience, derives from Varley's study of Claude Lorraine, and is characteristic of the classical exhibition watercolours of his last years, which included a number on similarly narrow, horizontal sheets. A comparable example is "Landscape Composition with Classical Tombs", in the Victoria & Albert Museum, no. 74 in Michael Kauffman's book on the V&A holdings of the artist's work. That watercolour also has a flock of sheep on the right and is of similar proportions. Varley exhibited a number of such works at the Society of Painters in Water-Colours in 1840-3, one of which could be the present work. The distant bridge may be the Roman bridge at Alcantara, in Spain, taken from a drawing or print by another artist.

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