



PROANTIC
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18th C Old Master Drawing Gouache By Willem Troost (amsterdam 1684-1752) Panoramic Landscape

3 750 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état



Description

Willem Troost (Amsterdam 1684 - 1752
Amsterdam) after Jan Griffier I (Amsterdam 1652
- 1718 London)

An Imaginary Panoramic River Landscape with a
Castle on a Hilltop

Bodycolour, black ink framing lines, 370 x 485
mm (14.6 x 19.1 inch)

Provenance~ Collection F.J.E. Horstmann,
Kasteel Oud

Clingendaal, Wassenaar; his sale, Mensing et fils
/ Frederik Muller

& Cie, 19 November 1929, lot 295: 'J. Griffier -

Vue de rivière

serpente à travers une vallée et longeant des
rives montagneuses avec

des vues de villes et des châteaux; au premier
plan des embarcations -

Dealer

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aquarelle encadrée. Haut. 38, larg. 49.5 cent'.~
Anonymous sale, Sotheby's, Amsterdam, 6
November 2001, lot 126~ Anonymous sale,
Swann Galleries, New York, 24 January 2005, lot
133a~ Private collection, The Netherlands

Willem Troost was baptised in Amsterdam on 24
February 1684, the son
of Cornelis Troost (1647-1695) and Sarah van
Eersel - Willem was the
uncle of the celebrated painter Cornelis Troost
(1696-1750).¹

Troost was taught the art of painting by Johannes
Glauber, who
specialised in Italianate landscapes, and Herman
van der Mijl. Troost
was patronised by Johann Wilhelm, Elector
Palatine (1658-1716), for whom
he worked in his palaces in Düsseldorf and
environs. He worked in
Cologne from 1716 to 1728 and then in Duisburg
and Essen, where he was
employed by Princess von der Pfalz-Sulzbach,
who commissioned him to
paint portraits. Troost then spent some years in
Cleves.

Willem married Jacoba Maria van Nickelen in
Düsseldorf in 1714, the
daughter of Jan van Nickelen, painter of church
interiors. Willem and
Jacoba were the parents of the painter Jan
Hendrik Troost van
Groenendoelen, who specialised in 'behangsels',
decorative
interior paintings. In 1735 Troost established his
studio in the
Veerstraat in Haarlem, and in 1752 he moved
back to Amsterdam, where he
spent the remainder of his life.
Few works by Willem Troost have survived,
mostly imaginary panoramic
landscapes painted in watercolour and
bodycolour, reminiscent of view in
the Rhine area of Germany. Some appear to be

compositions by himself,
while others are based on works by other artists,
as seems to be the
case with this gouache, which is related to an oil
painting by Jan Griffier I (1652-1718).²
Of all gouaches by Troost, the present work is
the largest and most
ambitious known, and Troost seems to have been
particularly pleased with
it, as it is also known from another version,
offered at Christie's in 1992.³ Intriguingly, this
other version is proudly signed 'W. TROOST I. &
F.',
'invenit & fecit', meaning 'invented and made',
normally used for
original compositions, rather than copies after
other artists. The
identical composition by Griffier therefore
remains a mystery - did
Griffier base his painting on Willem Troost's
composition, or was Troost
not entirely accurate with the artistic truth? It is
unlikely we will
ever know the true scenario, though the existence
of two autograph
versions by Troost suggests he was particularly
pleased with this
composition. Troost is known to have made
copies after other artists,
including Jan Wijnants and Herman Saftleven, by
whom Griffier was also
influenced.⁴ A comparable gouache by Troost of
a river landscape with a town on a hill is
preserved in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam
(fig.).⁵

1. For Willem Troost, see the biography in Saur
Allgemeines Künstlerlexikon: die bildenden
Künstler aller Zeiten und Völker, Munich 1992-,
vol. 110 (2021), p. 329. 2. Oil on panel, 37.1 x
49.7 cm, offered at anonymous sale, Christie's,
Amsterdam, 11 May 2005, lot 37. 3. Bodycolour,
376 x 491 mm, signed 'W. TROOST I. & F';
Christie's, London, 6 July 1992, lot 93. 4. Sale of
collection of Jan Bisschop, Rotterdam (Bosch &

Arenberg), 24 June 1771 ff, Album A, no. 1: 'Een fraai Landschap gestoffeerd met Beeldjes en Beestjes, door W. Troost naar Wynands. Gekleurd.'

('A fine landscape staffed with figures and animals, by W. Troost after Wynands. Coloured.' (sold for 16 florins to 'Neyman' and no. 65: 'Een ditto [Rhyngesicht] kapitaalder, door denzelven [Willem Troost], naar Harmen Zaftleven')

('A ditto [Rhine view], more capital, by the same [Willem Troost], after Harmen Zaftleven'), sold for 21 florins to 'Lokhorst'.5. Bodycolour, 143 x 190 mm, inv. no. RP-T-1918-491.