



Old Master Drawings Nicolaes Aartman (amsterdam 1713 - 1760 Amsterdam) Pair Of Landscapes



1 250 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Description

Nicolaes Aartman (Amsterdam 1713 - 1760 Amsterdam)

Pair of landscapes:

Italianate Landscape with Travellers Resting by the Entrance of a Country House

Coastal Landscape with Fishermen Mending Nets

Both pen and brown ink, watercolour, over traces of graphite, graphite framing lines, 93 x 119 mm (3.7 x 4.7 inch)

Both signed 'A. f.' (pen and brown ink)

Provenance

Dealer

Red Rose Fine Art

Old Master paintings, drawings and prints, objets d'art and porcelain

Tel : 0031629514501

Gouda 2801P

Private collection, The Netherlands

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Nicolaes Matthijsz. Aartman was formerly known as the 'Monogrammist A', for his distinctive way of signing his drawings.¹ Aartman is best known for the highly finished watercolour drawings such as the present sheet, executed for the albums of contemporary collectors - no paintings by the artist are recorded. Aartman worked both in monochrome grey wash, with signed drawings for instance in the Royal Collection at Windsor Castle,² and in colour wash, which were presumably higher valued by his contemporaries. The monochrome landscapes at Windsor were purchased by King George III (1738-1820), which shows the esteem in which early collectors held the artist.

Aartman is best known as a landscape draftsman, recording actual views in and around Amsterdam, and generalized idyllic views of a Mediterranean nature. However he also produced scenes from the life of Christ, other religious and mythological subjects, and interiors with genre scenes. Watercolours by Aartman are furthermore preserved in the print rooms of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, the Staatliche Graphische Sammlung, Munich, the Stiftung Weimarer Klassik und Kunstsammlungen, Weimar, and the Hessisches Landesmuseum, Darmstadt. A self-portrait by Aartman is in the print room of Leiden University.

The present pair of charming and beautifully preserved watercolours interestingly depict a typical Southern and a Northern view: an Italianate landscape with Classical architecture and a background of distant hills in the first, and a Northern coastal view as can be seen along the shores of Holland in the other. A comparable pair of two coastal views by Aartman, of somewhat smaller dimensions, is preserved in the

Metropolitan Museum, New York (see last fig.).³

1. For the artist, see the biography in Saur
Allgemeines Künstlerlexikon: die bildenden
Künstler aller Zeiten und Völker, Munich 1992- ,
vol. 1, p. 20.

2. C. White and C. Crawley, The Dutch and
Flemish Drawings of the Fifteenth to the Early
Nineteenth Centuries in the Collection of Her
Majesty the Queen at Windsor Castle, Cambridge
1994, nos. 548-550.

3. Watercolour, 70 x 97 mm (each); inv. nos.
1975.121.1 and 1975.121.2. The Metropolitan
pair is from the collection of William Esdaile
(1758-1837).