SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

The Serpentine near Landsbury's Lido

Rex Vicat Cole

Sold



REF: 375116

Height: 30 cm (11.8")

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Width: 40 cm (15.7")

Framed Height: 51.5 cm (20.3")

Framed Width: 41 cm (16.1")

Description

REX VICAT COLE(1870-1940)

The Serpentine near Landsbury’s Lido

Signed and dated 1934 l.r.; signed and inscribed with title on the reverse

Oil on board

30 by 40 cm., 11 by 15 in.(frame size 51.5 by 41 cm., 20 by 16 in.)

The mixed bathing pavilion on the banks of the Serpentine at Hyde Park was completed in 1930 and had become a highly popular attraction by the time Vicat Cole executed this painting four years later. It was popularly known as “Lansbury’s Lido” after Sir George Lansbury, the First Commissioner of Works during the Depression who had been a central figure in raising the money to build it. Reginald (Rex) Vicat Cole was the son of the artist George Vicat Cole. He began to exhibit in London in the 1890s and was elected a member of the Royal Society of British Artists in 1900. He taught at King’s College London with Byam Shaw and together they opened their own establishment, the Byam Shaw and Vicat Cole School of Art in Camden Street, Kensington in 1910. At the outbreak of the First World War Vicat Cole and Byam Shaw enlisted in the Artists Rifles, although Shaw soon transferred to the Special Constabulary. After Shaw’s death in 1919 Vicat Cole was Principal until his retirement in 1926.Â Known for his landscapes and paintings of trees he also had a keen interest in depicting the streets of London. He held a one-man show “London Old and New” at Robert Dunthorne’s Gallery, Vigo Street, London, in 1935 and planned a book The Streets of London which was never published. He exhibited at the Royal Academy and elsewhere.