

SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

Shepherd's Bush by Walter Crane

Walter Crane

Sold



Description

WALTER CRANE, RWS
(1845-1915)

Shepherd's Bush

Inscribed and dated May '75
Watercolour heightened with white
Framed

35 by 26 cm.; 13 ³/₄ by 10 ¹/₄ in.
(frame size 59.5 by 49 cm, 23 ¹/₂ by 19 ¹/₄ in.)

Provenance:
With Colnaghi & Co, London;
Mrs F Salmon;
Christie's London, 8 Nov 1996, lot 25.

Crane lived at Beaumont Lodge, Shepherd's Bush, West London from 1873 until their move to Holland Street, Kensington in 1892.

Walter Crane was born in Liverpool, the son of Thomas Crane, a portrait painter and miniaturist. During his early apprenticeship to the wood-engraver William James Linton (1859-62) he had the opportunity to come into close contact with the works of Rossetti, Millais and other member of the Pre-Raphaelite circle who, along with his interest in the Italian Renaissance the Japanese art and design, were to have a great influence upon his own work.

Crane met Burne-Jones and William Morris in 1871 and was inspired by the former's exhibits at the Old Watercolour Society he began to work in watercolour and tempera, showing works at the Dudley Gallery, Grosvenor Gallery and later at the New Gallery. He was increasingly drawn to landscape painting during a prolonged Italian sojourn in 1871-73. Leighton had introduced him to Giovanni Costa and the landscape painting of other members of the Etruscan School and on his return to London landscapes began to feature more often in his work. However, he is probably still best known as a leading member of the Aesthetic movement and for his illustrations for children's books, decorative schemes, his radical beliefs and close association with the Socialist movement.