SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

Mary Adshead - The Royal Procession - Watercolour Illustration

Mary Adshead

Sold



REF: 2865

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Description

MARY ADSHEAD
(1904-1995)

The Royal Procession

Signed and inscribed with title
Pen and ink and watercolour
Unframed

15 by 14.5 cm., 6 by 5 ¾ in.
(mount size 29.5 by 28.5 cm., 11 ½ by 11 ¼ in.)

Provenance:
The artist’s estate;
Liss Llewellyn Fine Art.

The work illustrates a poem by Anne Harding Thompson:

The Royal Procession

Jennifer went to hear the Band. (Bang, brrum, brrum!)
To see the King come down the Strand. (Bang, brrum, brrum!)

Alas! Poor Jennifer’s rather small (Bang, brrum, bruum!)
She couldn’t see the King at all. (Bang, brrum, brrum!)
She couldn’t even see the Queen, (Bang, brrum, bruum!)
Because of the people inbetween. (Bank, brrum, bruum!)

Mary Adshead enrolled at the Slade School of Fine Art in 1921, when she was only 16. There she and Rex Whistler won the joint first prize in the Slade’s Summer painting competition in 1924 and as a result Henry Tonks arranged for them to undertake a joint mural commission at the Highway Boys’ Club in London’s East End. Following this success, she began to receive a steady stream of mural commissions, most importantly those in Liverpool University (1924) and for the British Empire Exhibition (1924) and for Lord Beaverbrook’s dining room (1928) and the Bank Underground Station (1929). She was soon established as a painter, decorator, painter of murals and illustrator, designing posters for London Underground, decorations for the British Pavilion at the 1937 Paris International Exhibition and designed stamps for the General Post Office. In 1929 she married Stephen Bone, the son of the artist Sir Muirhead Bone.

She exhibited at the Royal Academy, New English Art Club, Society of Women Artists and Goupil Gallery and exhibitions of her work have been held at The University of Liverpool Art Gallery; Graves Art Gallery, Sheffield and Kingston upon Thames Art Gallery.