Two Stage Dresses

Claud Lovat Fraser

Sold



REF: 375432

Height: 45.5 cm (17.9")

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Width: 29 cm (11.4")

Framed Height: 67 cm (26.4")

Framed Width: 48 cm (18.9")

Description

CLAUD LOVAT FRASER (1890-1921)

Two Stage Dresses

Signed, inscribed and dated: Two Stage Dresses/a drawing/For/OUR DEAR/ALBERT and MARJORY/with love and every good wish/from/GRACE and LOVAT/October 1919/C Lovat Fraser 1919

Watercolour, bodycolour and pen and ink

45.5 by 29 cm., 18 by 11 in. (frame size 67 by 48 cm., 26 by 19 in.)

Provenance: A gift from the artist to Albert and Marjory Rutherston, 1919; By descent to Gloria, Countess Bathurst. Claud Lovat Fraser was born in London and educated at Charterhouse. Initially intending to join the family firm of solicitors he gave up his legal studies in order to attend the Westminster School of Art. His love of literature and theatre led him to concentrate his artistic output on theatrical design and highly original book illustrations and publications. His passion for the work of Jacobean and eighteenth-century playwrights was encouraged by his friends Edward Gordon Craig and Herbert Beerbohm Tree who also introduced him to the world of theatrical costume and set design. Despite a history of frail health he volunteered for the army in 1914 and served with distinction at the Battle of Loos and in the Ypres Salient. In February 1916 he was sent to hospital suffering from shell shock and gas and was never to return to the front. At this time he produced a number of amusing and sometimes moving watercolours recording the incidents and uniforms of the front. After the war he worked with extreme energy holding a number of exhibitions and most importantly producing his revolutionary designs for the costumes and sets for Nigel Playfair’s important productions of As You Like It and The Beggar’s Opera.

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