

Anthony Devis Scandinavian Woodland Landscape with Figures

Anthony Devis

£260



REF: 1122

Width: 38.5 cm (15.2")

Depth: 25.5 cm (10")

Description

A charming ink and wash landscape by the celebrated English painter Anthony Devis (1729-1816), depicting figures travelling through a Scandinavian woodland. Delicate, atmospheric, and beautifully observed, the work captures the quiet drama of a northern landscape through Devis's assured use of line, tonal wash, and carefully balanced composition.

The scene is composed around a wooded foreground, where figures provide a gentle human presence within the wider landscape. Trees, earth, and distant light are suggested with an economy of touch, allowing the character of the setting to emerge through subtle variations of ink and wash. The result is at once intimate and expansive: a carefully recorded natural scene imbued with the romantic feeling of travel and discovery.

Anthony Devis was a distinguished 18th-century English landscape painter, active in London and admired for his work in watercolour and oils. He was particularly accomplished in conveying the texture, atmosphere, and changing light of the natural world. His drawings and washes reveal a highly sensitive approach to landscape, where seemingly simple details—an avenue of trees, a path, a group of travellers, or a patch of open sky—combine to create a vivid sense of place.

This appealing work offers a fine example of Devis's talent for landscape composition and his ability to evoke mood through restrained means. The Scandinavian woodland setting gives the drawing a distinctive and evocative character, while the figures lend both narrative interest and scale.

A refined and engaging work for collectors of 18th-century British drawings, landscape art, and travel-inspired scenes. It would display beautifully in a study, library, country-house interior, or collection of works on paper.