

Cloud Formation - James Humbert Craig RHA

£4,950



REF: 6662

Height: 51 cm (20.1")

Width: 61 cm (24")

Framed Height: 65 cm (25.6")

Framed Width: 75 cm (29.5")

Description

Cloud Formation

James Humbert Craig RHA (1877-1944)

Oil on canvas, circa 1920

A compelling early 20th-century Irish landscape by James Humbert Craig RHA, one of the foremost painters of the Irish landscape tradition. Painted circa 1920, *Cloud Formation* is an atmospheric study of shifting light, expansive sky, and the changing moods of the natural world.

Craig is especially celebrated for his ability to capture the character of the Irish landscape through energetic brushwork and a sensitive response to weather and light. Here, richly worked impasto gives the surface a tangible vitality: the paint is built up in expressive passages, allowing the clouds to gather, break, and move across the canvas with remarkable force. The result is a work of strong visual drama, while retaining the quiet poetry and close observation for which Craig's landscapes are admired.

Born in Belfast in 1877, Craig developed into one of the best-known Irish landscape painters of his generation. Largely self-taught, he exhibited regularly at the Royal Hibernian Academy and was elected a full member in 1928. His work is represented in important public collections, including the National Gallery of Ireland and the Ulster Museum.

The painting retains a studio label verso and is supported by an excellent direct provenance. It was purchased by Edward Wolfe from the artist's studio, subsequently entered the collection of Wolfe's partner, James "Jim" O'Connor, and has descended through the family.

A highly evocative and confidently painted work by a significant Irish artist, *Cloud Formation* would be a distinguished addition to a collection of Irish art, landscape painting, or early 20th-century British and Irish modernism.