Illustration for Ecclesiasticus

Violet Brunton

Sold



REF: 375191

Height: 21.5 cm (8.5")

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Width: 14 cm (5.5")

Description

VIOLET BRUNTON, RMS (1878-1951)

Illustration for Ecclesiasticus

Signed with the artist’s nom-de-plume Watercolour and pencil, unframed, in mount only

21.5 by 14 cm., 8 by 5 in. (mount size 38.5 by 27.5 cm., 15 by 10 in.)

Violet Brunton was born in Brighouse, Yorkshire and studied at Southport and the Liverpool School of Art, where she studied woodcarving, miniature painting and book illustration. Her work won the County Palatine Scholarship and she was subsequently offered a place at the Royal College of Art in London. Primarily a painter of miniatures and a sculptor, Brunton also worked as a whimsical and highly decorative illustrator. She contributed to two illustrated books published in 1927, The Jeweller of Bagdad and Ecclesiasticus or The Wisdom of Jesus the Son of Sirach. The following year, her illustrations for Green Magic were published and in 1929, a further illustrated title carrying her contributions, Silver Magic, was published. Some of her monotone illustrations appearing in Green Magic (1928) and Silver Magic (1929) subsequently appeared with the illustrations of Kay Nielsen with his suite of illustrations published in Red Magic (1930). She was elected a member of the Royal Society of Miniature Painters in 1925. Brunton sometimes signed with the pseudonym Victor du Lac. The present work appears to be an unused illustration for Ecclesiasticus, or the Wisdom of Jesus the Son of Sirach, published by John Lane the Bodley Head Ltd., in 1927 with an introduction by C Lewis Hind. In his “Comment with Quotations” Hind introduces the illustrations: “The purpose of this “Comment with Quotations” is to introduce the drawings, made by Miss Violet Brunton, to illustrate “Ecclesiasticus”. When I first saw them I must admit that I was startled, but to be startled, at first glance, is not a bad impulse towards the appreciation of art ”“ especially modern art.” From this introduction if may be concluded that the idea for the publication could have originally come from Violet Brunton. It has been suggested that this work illustrates: “Hast thou daughters? give heed to their body, And make not thy face cheerful toward them.” (Ecclus 7:24)

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