

SARAH COLEGRAVE
FINE ART

John Brett - Tarbert

John Brett

£1,850



Description

JOHN BRETT, ARA(1831-1902)

Tarbert, Scotland

Inscribed and dated u.l.: Tarbert 4 Aug '86 Oil on canvas In artist's original frame

17.5 by 35.5 cm.; 7 by 14 in. (frame size 35 by 52.5 cm., 13 ¾ by 20 ¾ in.)

Provenance: John Scott, 1886; The Harborne Collection.

Exhibited: London, Fine Art Society, John Brett - Three Months on the Scottish Coast, 1886, no.19.

Literature: Christina Payne, John Brett, Yale University Press, 2010, p.232, cat no.1178.

Brett studied under Richard Redgrave before entering the Royal Academy School in 1853. Influenced by the Pre-Raphaelites and inspired by Ruskin's teaching to make close and details observations of nature he exhibited *The Stonebreaker* in 1858 and established his reputation. Ruskin immediately took him up and sent him to Italy to paint his masterpiece, *Val d'Aosta*, in 1859 and he thereafter he became one of the foremost Pre-Raphaelite landscape painters.

In the summer of 1886 Brett took a cottage on the Ayrshire coast and made a series of oil sketches that were later that year shown at the Fine Art Society, London. This view of the north of Loch Lomond near the village of Tarbet is a rare glimpse of a sunny day and blue sky as at the end of the holiday Brett commented on the poor weather he had experienced that summer: "My sketches will prove that a sunny day has been a very rare phenomenon and although I have never before seen Scotland so miserably dull and colourless ... I have not seen a single fine cloud arrangement although I have always been on the lookout" (Payne & Brett, John Brett, 2010, p.156.)