The Cenotaph at Night

Rex Vicat Cole

Sold



REF: 375117

Height: 30 cm (11.8")

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Width: 40 cm (15.7")

Framed Height: 46.5 cm (18.3")

Framed Width: 56 cm (22")

Description

REX VICAT COLE(1870-1940)

The Cenotaph at Night

Signed l.l.; inscribed with title on the reverseOil on panel

30 by 40 cm., 12 by 15 in.(frame size 46.5 by 56 cm., 18 by 22 in.)

Literature:T J Barringer, The Cole Family: Painters of the English Landscape 1838-1975, Portsmouth City Museums 1988, p.159.

Sir Edwin Lutyens's iconic Cenotaph, erected following the end of the First World War was unveiled on Whitehall in 1920. The view is taken looking east towards the River Thames with the eighteenth century Richmond Terrace (built on the site of Henry VIII's original Whitehall Palace) in the background. Work on the Ministry of Defence Building which would now appear to the left of the picture was not begun until 1939.Â Reginald (Rex) Vicat Cole was the son of the artist George Vicat Cole. He began to exhibit in London in the 1890s and was elected a member of the Royal Society of British Artists in 1900.Â Â He taught at King's College London with Byam Shaw and together they opened their own establishment, the Byam Shaw and Vicat Cole School of Art in Camden Street, Kensington in 1910. At the outbreak of the First World War Vicat Cole and Byam Shaw enlisted in the Artists Rifles, although Shaw soon transferred to the Special Constabulary. After Shaw's death in 1919 Vicat Cole was Principal until his retirement in 1926.Â Known for his landscapes and paintings of trees he also had a keen interest in depicting the streets of London. He held a one-man show "London Old and New" at Robert Dunthorne's Gallery, Vigo Street, London, in 1935 and planned a bookÂ The Streets of LondonÂ which was never published. He exhibited at the Royal Academy and elsewhere.