Drapery Study for the Royal Academy Arts & Crafts Mural by Charles Sims RA

Charles Sims

£390



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Description

CHARLES SIMS, RA, RWS, RSW (1873-1928)

Drapery Study for the Royal Academy Arts & Crafts Mural

Pencil, squared for transfer

Unframed, in conservation mount

17.5 by 24 cm., 7 by 9 in. (frame size 33.5 by 39 cm., 9 by 15 in.)

Provenance: Rosalie Emslie, the artist’s assistant c.1916.

Sims was born in Islington and studied at South Kensington, the Academie Julian, Paris and at the Royal Academy Schools. He first made his name at a one-man show at the Leicester Galleries in 1906 and he was elected ARA in the following year. In 1908 The Fountain was bought by the Chantrey Bequest and other works are now in public collections in this country and overseas. In 1918 he was appointed a war artist and sent to France. On his return he was made Keeper of the Royal Academy Schools, 1920-1926. Sims exhibited widely during his lifetime, sending a total of 116 works at the Royal Academy alone, however, he never recovered for the loss of his son in the First World War and took his own life in 1928.

The present drawing is a study for the artist’s mural “Crafts” made for the Civics Room in the Royal Academy’s Arts and Crafts exhibition of 1916. Believed the have been lost, Sims’ vast mural canvas (30 ft wide) was recently found rolled up in the basement of the Academy. Sims was aided in the painting by a group of female students from the Royal Academy Schools: Rosalie Emslie, Florence Asher, Margaret Brown and Veronica Martindale. The current work comes from the collection of Rosalie Emslie.