

SA1149605

George William Mote, Near Guildford, Surrey, Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1149605

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 104 cm (40.9")

Width = 91 cm (35.8")

Depth = 6 cm (2.4")

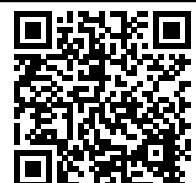
Description

This late 19th-century oil painting by British painter George William Mote (1832-1909) depicts a shepherd and his flock before an extensive view across the Surrey countryside near Guildford. Curiously, the shepherd is probably the artist himself. The formative years of Mote's career remain quite a mystery. His parents divorced when he was a child and he lived with his mother who had worked as a housekeeper in their hometown of Barnet. They were not a particularly wealthy family, however records show that he began exhibiting at the Royal Academy in London in 1857 and was, indeed, living in the capital. He must have therefore found some means through which to begin practising and exhibiting his works. Already at this young age, he was showing considerable talent. A Victorian art critic remarked that he "ought to do well if this be his beginning". A move to Worcestershire to receive the patronage of the antiquarian and book collector Sir Thomas Phillips (1792-1872) proved divisive to Mote. He was employed as Phillips' 'gardener and caretaker,' although this might very well have been a phoney position which allowed Mote to paint with Phillips' patronage. A number of works w...

Seller Details

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