

SA1189613

Walter Heath Williams, Welsh Mountain & River, Nocturne - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA1189613****Date of manufacture: 1860**

Dimensions

Height = 78 cm (30.7")

Width = 124 cm (48.8")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

Description

This atmospheric late 19th-century oil painting by English artist Walter Heath Williams (fl.1841-1876) depicts a moonlit Welsh mountain landscape with a river. The composition is anchored by a strongly observed foreground of moss-covered rocks, rendered with tactile realism as moonlight strikes their damp surfaces, establishing a sense of physical certainty and proximity. Beyond this, the landscape begins to dissolve. A river threads through the middle distance, its surface merging almost imperceptibly with low-lying mist. The mountains themselves are partially veiled, their forms softened and obscured by cloud vapour. Rather than clarifying distance, the moonlight withdraws it, allowing the land to recede into suggestion rather than definition. Williams here brings together two complementary impulses. The foreground speaks in the language of naturalism - observed, and weighted - while the distant landscape moves toward a restrained romanticism, enriched with a sense of mystery. The mist acts as a mediator between earth and sky, erasing firm boundaries and lending the scene a quiet sense of introspection. The result is a landscape that feels both inhabited and unknown...

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Seller Details

Brave Fine Art

21 Enterprise Way Arle Road Cheltenham Cotswolds GL51 8LZ
United Kingdom Under appointment only.

Tel: 01684 215986

International Tel: +44 1684 215986

