Sacromonte, Italy, 3rd September 1879

Edward Lear



REF: 3207

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Description

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Edward Lear (1812-1888)
Sacromonte, Italy, 3rd September 1879

Inscribed lower right: (4)/Sacromonte/Sept. 3 1879 and extensively inscribed with colour notes
Pen and brown ink over pencil
33.8 by 50.9 cm., 13 ¼ by 20 in.

Provenance:
With Spink and Son (K3 90438);
Private collection, Suffolk

These elaborate on-the-spot sketches were not intended to be sold but were a record of the subject with colour notes which would be useful for a future finished work. He usually only drew in pencil on the spot then added pen and ink and sometimes watercolour that evening. As usual he dated the present drawing but does not include the time. On each tour he numbered his drawings - the present drawing is no.4. No. 3 in the sequence on the same large scale was sold at Mallam's on 6th April 2022, lot 27.

Lear lived in the Villa Emily, San Remo, named after Tennyson's wife from 1871 to 1881 and would spend the summers in the Monte Generoso area on the Swiss-Italian border.

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