The return of the Wandering Father, Fiesole

Sir George Hayter

Sold

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Description

Sir George Hayter (1792-1871)
The return of the Wandering Father, Fiesole

Signed with initials, dated and inscribed, lower right: Il ritorno del Padre ambulante/A Fiesole. GH. 1847. London
Pen and brown ink and watercolour over pencil
44 by 27 cm., 15 7/8 by 10 5/8 in.

In the autumn of 1816, Hayter undertook his first visit to Italy, settling in Rome, where he remained until 1818. He returned in September 1826 when his unorthodox lifestyle hampered his career progression in England and this time he settled in Florence. However, he only remained in Italy for just over a year, when the scandal following the death of his mistress, when she accidentally poisoned herself with arsenic, meant he had to leave.

Despite his personal setbacks, Hayter's professional success in Italy is evident. He was elected an honorary member of the Accademia of San Luca in Rome in 1816 and later was also elected to the academies of Florence, Bologna and Palma.

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