Studies of Bluebells, 25th May 1899

Archibald Thorburn

Sold

REF: 3028

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Description

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Archibald Thorburn (1860-1935)
Studies of Bluebells, 25th May 1899

Inscribed lower centre: May 25/'99
Watercolour over pencil heightened with bodycolour on buff paper
35.5 by 26.3 cm., 14 by 10 ¼ in.

Provenance:
Sir Peter Scott (1909-1989);
By descent until 2024

This is a rare study of flowers by Thorburn who is well known for his watercolours of birds.
He was born in Scotland, the son of Robert Thorburn (1818-1885), portrait miniaturist to Queen Victoria but moved to London to study art. In 1887 he was commissioned by the artist Joseph Wolf to illustrate Lord Lilford's Coloured Figures of the Birds of the British Isles, for which he painted 268 watercolours. He soon became the most sought after wildlife artist of the period exhibiting extensively at the Royal Academy and producing illustrations for many books. This watercolour belonged to the famous artist and naturalist Sir Peter Scott.

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