St Julian's Bay, Malta

Edward Lear

Sold

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REF: 1098

Description

Edward Lear (1812-1888)
St Julian's Bay, Malta

Inscribed lower left: St. Julian's Bay/Malta/13 March. 8 A.M. 1866, variously inscribed with colour notes and numbered lower right 138
Pen and brown ink and watercolour over pencil
21.4 by 45.6 cm., 8 ¼ by 18 in.

Provenance:
With the Redfern Gallery, Cork St, London, 1947, where bought by R.F. Keith

Lear arrived in Malta in December 1865. He knew that a friend and patron Sir Henry Storks, who had previously been High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands from 1859 until 1863, was now Commander-in-Chief in Malta. Storks had just departed however but Lear stayed on Malta until April 1866. This unusually large watercolour by Lear, excecuted on the spot dates from 13th March 1866 and is typically annotated with date, time and other notes.

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