Westminster Bridge

Francis Nicholson



REF: 983

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Description

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Francis Nicholson (1753-1844)
View of Westminster Bridge and the Thames

Pen and black and ink and watercolour over pencil
30.7 by 43.1 cm., 12 by 17 in

Provenance:
J. & W. Vokins, London;
A Deceased Estate

This is a view of Old Westminster Bridge over the Thames, painted from Lambeth with the gatehouse of Lambeth Palace just in view on the right. The bridge was constructed between 1739 and 1750. The jumble of buildings that made up Westminster Palace can be seen alongside Westminster Hall, with St Margaret's and Westminster Abbey behind, with St Martin's in the Fields on the far side of the bridge.
Nicholson was born in Pickering, Yorkshire and lived in various Yorkshire towns before moving to London in 1803. He painted mainly views of Yorkshire and Scotland and, later in life, London. He built up such a successful career as a drawing master in London that he stopped exhibiting from 1833. Nicholson was one of the founding members of the Old Watercolour Society in 1805. An exhibition of his work was held at the Ryedale Folk Museum, Hutton le Hole, Yorkshire in 2012 with an accompanying catalogue, Francis Nicholson (1753-1844), Painter, Printmaker and Drawing Master by Gordon Bell, Colin Coulson and Judy Dixon.

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