A Horse and Cart on a Country Road

Thomas Shotter Boys

Sold



REF: 971

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Description

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Thomas Shotter Boys (1803-1874)
A Horse and Cart on a Country Road

Watercolour over pencil heightened with bodycolour and stopping out
10.3 by 19.1 cm.,4 by 7 ½ in.

This early work by Boys dates stylistically from the early 1830s and shows the strong influence that Richard Parkes Bonington (1802-1828) exerted on him at this period. A Horse and Cart on a country road was a popular motif for Bonington and Boys is known to have copied a similar work by him (see Patrick Noon, Richard Parkes Bonington - the Complete Paintings, 2008, no. 121, ill.). Bonington had moved to France with his family in 1817 and was in Paris by 1820. He quickly established himself as an artist and his first exhibits at the Salon in 1824 were met with great acclaim. Meanwhile Boys began his apprenticership to the engraver George Cooke in London in 1817 and in 1823 he arrived in Paris to begin a career as an engraver and subsequently a watercolourist. There were few British artists in Paris at the time and Boys and Bonington would no doubt quickly have become acquainted. Although Bonington was only two months older than Boys, he strongly influenced the latter's work in the late 1820s and early 1830s. Boys returned to England in 1837 but his work from the 1830s and early 1840s is considered his best.

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