

Castello Aragonese, Ischia near Naples, Italy

Hercules Brabazon Brabazon



Description

Hercules Brabazon Brabazon (1821-1906)
Castello Aragonese, Ischia near Naples, Italy

Signed with initials lower right and inscribed verso: Ischia near Naples
Watercolour and bodycolour over pencil
19.4 by 27.5 cm., 7 ³/₄ by 10 ³/₄ in.

The present watercolour depicts Castello Aragonese, the ancient citadel, built on a small volcanic islet, which has been attached to the main Island of Ischia via a 220m causeway for centuries. Its location on the Gulf of Naples, eighteen nautical miles off the southern Italian coast, and its natural defensive position, meant that it was of strategic importance in the region from the 5th Century BC. Indeed, until a tunnel was built through the rock in the fifteenth century, the only way to access the castle was from the sea, via ladders.