Study of a Leopard Resting in the Shade

Edward Lear

Sold



REF: 2939

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Description

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Edward Lear (1812-1888)
Study of a Leopard Resting in the Shade

Signed lower left in the margin below the watercolour; E. Lear.
Pencil, pen and ink and watercolour heightened with white, mounted onto a secondary sheet
10 by 15 cm., 4 by 6 in.

Provenance:
Miss Fraser, circa 1830;
K.S. Barrie, 1921;
Anonymous sale, Christie's London, 10th July 1990, lot 1 (part);
Vivien Noakes (1937-2011) and by descent to 2023

Literature:
Robert McCracken Peck, The Natural History of Edward Lear, 2016, p.33, ill. fig.28
Robert Peck (op.cit.) suggests that Lear may have seen this leopard at Cross's Menagerie, a zoo set up by Edward Cross (1774-1854) in the `Exeter Change', a building on the Strand, London. Entry cost two shillings and it was open from nine in the morning until nine at night. A leopard was advertised as an attraction along with lions, tigers, elephants and vultures.

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