

The Garden of the Nereids

Fanny Elizabeth Thomas



Description

Fanny Elizabeth Thomas (1851-1925)
The Garden of the Nereids

Signed and dated lower right: F E Thomas 1881 and signed and inscribed on old label attached to the backboard: Gurnards at .../..... in the Brighton Aquarium/Exhibited in the Grosvenor/Gallery 1880/by Miss F.E. Thomas/Naworth Cottage/Shortlands/Kent and in another hand: Mrs ORLEBAR/Pakyns Manor/Hurstpierpont (3140 tel.)
Watercolour heightened with bodycolour and scratching out
41cm by 56 cm, 16 ¼ by 22 in.

Provenance:

By descent from the artist to Margaret Orlebar née Borrer (1884-1953) of Pakyns Manor, Hurstpierpoint;
With Guy Peppiatt Fine Art, 2006;
Private Collection until 2023

Fanny Thomas was born in St John's, Newfoundland, Canada in 1851. Her non-appearance in the 1871 UK census suggests she returned to England after that date and in 1880, she exhibited two pictures in London, at the Grosvenor Gallery, as well as a further picture at the Suffolk Street Gallery. In the 1881 census she is recorded as living with her aunt and uncle Sir Richard and Fanny Dacres at 28 Palmeira Square, Brighton together with her two younger sisters Edith and Annie. In early 1883 she married William Borrer (1846-1920) of Pakyns Manor, Hurstpierpoint. She died in Easthampstead, Berkshire in 1925.