Study of a Violinist tuning up

Sir William Rothenstein



REF: 3111

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Description

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Sir William Rothenstein (1872-1945)
Study of a Violinist tuning up

Inscribed centre right: effect 2 lights
Black and white chalk on buff paper
36.4 by 23.6 cm., 14 ¼ by 9 ¼ in.

Provenance:
By descent from the artist until sold, Sotheby's Olympia, 26th February 2003, lot 15;
Private Collection, London

Rothenstein was born in Bradford, Yorkshire, his father having emigrated from Germany in 1859 to work in the textiles industry. His uncles Charles and Albert were both involved in the arts as an important collector and artist respectively. They both changed their surnames to Rutherston during the First World War. Rothenstein studied at the Slade and later in Paris and became a successful artist. He is best known for his work during both World Wars and for his portraits, more than two hundred of which are in the National Portrait Gallery.

Rothenstein painted musicians and composers on many occasions. An oil `The Violinist' is in the collection of the University of Sheffield and a drawing of Arnold Dolmetsch playing the violin is in the Tate Gallery. He also drew chalk studies of Ralph Vaughan Williams (Royal College of Music) and Edward Elgar (NPG).

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