The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Study of Two Figures (for The Burial of the Scottish Regalia)

David Wilkie (British, 1785-1841)

Date ca. 1832

Medium Black, red and brown chalk with touches of blue, pink, peach and white gouache on brown wove paper

Dimensions 14 3/8 x 18 3/8 in. (36.6 x 46.7 cm)

Credit Line Bequest of Charles A. Ryskamp, 2010

Accession Number 2010.3.09

Not On View

Commentary In this study for an unrealized painting, Wilkie—best known for his history subjects—dramatizes the 1652 burial of Scottish royal treasure for safeguarding from Oliver Cromwell's forces. The unfinished state of the drawing heightens the visibility of Wilkie's rapid yet highly descriptive use of line, shadow, and highlight, while also augmenting the suspense of the narrative, which ends at a pregnant moment beside the void of the sheet at left.