

The Frick Collection: Detail Report



Symphony in Grey and Green: The Ocean

James McNeill Whistler (American, 1834–1903)

Date 1866

Medium Oil on canvas

Dimensions 31 3/4 × 40 1/8 in. (80.6 × 101.9 cm)

Credit Line Henry Clay Frick Bequest

Accession Number 1914.1.135

Currently On View

Second Floor, Room 21, Grand Stair Hall

Commentary This painting, exhibited in London in 1892 as *Symphony in Grey and Green: The Ocean*, was one of several seascapes Whistler painted in 1866 during a visit to Valparaíso, Chile. The influence of Japanese prints on his work is apparent here in the high horizon, the decorative arrangement of bamboo sprays, and the butterfly monogram that appears both on the picture and on the frame, which was of Whistler's own design. Source: *Art in The Frick Collection: Paintings, Sculpture, Decorative Arts*, New York: Harry N. Abrams, 1996.

Collection History Mrs. Peter Taylor. R.A. Canfield. Knoedler. Frick, 1914. Source: *Paintings in The Frick Collection: American, British, Dutch, Flemish and German. Volume I*. New York: The Frick Collection, 1968.