



Sir John Lavery

Date

1921

Primary Maker

Lady Hazel Lavery

Medium

Oil on canvas

Dimensions

76.9 × 64.3 cm

Description

This portrait of John Lavery, a highly competent work, is one of the few known surviving works by Hazel Lavery who decided once she married that one artist was enough in any household. However, she did exhibit in later years

with John, at the Grosvenor, Chenil and Alpine Club Galleries, sometimes using the name 'Hazell Lavery'. Her works sold very well, possibly because it was less expensive than her husband's. Hazel exhibited fourteen sketches and paintings in a joint exhibition with John at the Alpine Club Galleries in 1921. In his introduction to the accompanying catalogue Winston Churchill was generous in his praise of Hazel's talent: 'What most pleases... is the evidence of natural facility, of a hand which is at home with paint, of an inborn sense of style, of a native elegance. Apart from this there is in some of her portraits a quality of mystery, of Eastern strangeness, of alertness in the midst of brooding repose, which makes her vision as distinguished as her execution. (Catalogue Entry [16], Hazel, Lady Lavery 'Society and Politics', Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, 18 September - 3 November 1996, pp. 220-221)