



The Unfinished Harmony 1934 (Lady Lavery)

Date

1934

Primary Maker

Sir John Lavery

Medium

Oil on canvas

Dimensions

124.5 x 197.8 cm

Description

In the final year of her life Hazel was confined to Cromwell Place. She hated the isolation, so Lavery set up a canvas to paint while he kept her company. The narrow range of

pink and purple tones which describe the room and Hazel's deathly pallor invest this painting with a sense of forboding. Her condition, myocarditis, caused her heart to weaken and she suffered a series of illnesses that finally resulted in delirium and death. When Hazel became too ill, Lavery ceased work on this canvas and when she died, it lay for some time in his studio turned to the wall. However, he completed this painting before presenting it to the Hugh Lane Gallery in memory of his wife in 1935. (Catalogue Entry [30]: Hazel, Lady Lavery Society and Politics, Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, 18 September - 3 November 1996, p. 225)