Basic Detail Report



The Winged Horse

Date 1904

Primary Maker George William Russell (Æ)

Medium Oil on board

Dimensions

31.5 x 45.8 cm

Description

'The Winged Horse' is one of the earliest examples of AE's easel paintings and it is one of a number of paintings, which Hugh Lane purchased from the artist for his 'Gallery of Modern Art'. AE included it in his first public exhibition, which he held in 1904 together with Constance and Casimir Markievicz, entitled 'Paintings from two Countries'. The powerful image of the winged horse surges through a watery universe in which a god-like rider is the source of a radiating light pouring over the entire canvas. The style, and more particularly the imagery, of AE's work was that of the Symbolists. He used his painting to express literary, philosophical and visionary ideas and in many ways it was for him an extension of his literary activities. (Extract from 'Images and Insights', Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, Dublin, 1993, p. 80)