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Date: 2/7/2018

Client: Scottsdale Art Auction

Artist: Thomas Moran

Subject: Solitude: The Cocomin Forest

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Size: 20 1/8" x 30 1/8"

Order: 13785



Condition:

The artwork is an oil painting on a medium wove linen canvas which is stretched onto a stable four-member stretcher. The canvas support is oxidized with age, with a small puncture (approximately 1/8") at the center of the painting. A small patch which has fallen off had been adhered at some point, and glue remnants remain. Additionally there is a small loss at the top right and stretcher marks along the top and bottom edges, as well as a small hole along the bottom stretcher bar at the lower right. The oil based ground and paint layers exhibit noticeable cupping throughout, as well as a scratch at the lower left and abrasions at the lower right edge above the signature. Ultraviolet examination reveals a fluorescence of the artist's original glazing and what appears to be artist changes at the upper right and at the left center within the sunset. Cleaning tests show the painting to be unvarnished, with layers of both surface and embedded dirt. The painting is signed and dated with the artist's traditional monogram at the lower right in black: T. Moran, 1907.

Treatment:

At the client's request, treatment was limited to the following: glue remnants were removed from the verso mechanically. The tear was then bonded with Beva gesso. Canvas was treated with mild humidity under controlled temperature to mitigate surface distortions created by the oxidized and brittle canvas. The original tacking edges were reinforced with linen strips adhered with a thermo-plastic adhesive and re-stretched gently to the original stretcher bars. Dirt layers were removed using the appropriate detergents and solvents. The loss at the top right was filled with a reversible vinyl gesso and in-painted along with the tear, scratch and selective abrasions at the lower right using pigments mulled in an acrylic resin. A final coat of synthetic resin varnish was applied to protect the painting from outside elements and create a smooth and even surface.

Treatment was performed and completed on 2/6/18.