

JOHN BENNETT fine paintings

“View of the Dardanelles, with the Old Castles on the sites of Sestos and Abydos”

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GEORGE EDWARDS HERING



REF: 374821

Height: 30 cm (11.8")

Width: 59.8 cm (23.5")

Framed Height: 39.3 cm (15.5")

Framed Width: 67.9 cm (26.7")

## Description

GEORGE EDWARDS HERING English School 1805-1879 "View of the Dardanelles, with the Old Castles on the sites of Sestos and Abydos" Oil on canvas, inscribed Dardanelles on stretcher on reverse 30 x 59.8 cms 11 $\frac{3}{4}$  x 23 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches Overall framed size 39.3 x 67.9 cms 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  ins Exhibited: British Institution 1837 no. 307 G E Hering was a landscape artist whose primary source of views to paint was Italy but who also travelled around Greece, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland, France and Scotland producing works in an elegant style and often on a small scale. His paintings were keenly collected by those who had travelled through Europe and wanted mementos of their journey. He was born in London in 1805, the son of a bookbinder, who had come to England from Germany. Initially, the young man found employment in a bank as a clerk but, having decided to pursue a life as an artist, travelled to Munich in 1829 to study there. He had met Lord Erskine, who became his patron, and they went to Switzerland. From there, bearing letters of introduction from Erskine, he continued his artistic instruction in Venice where he remained for two years. Hering resumed his travelling around Italy and from there, continued around the Adriatic and on into the Levant until he reached Smyrna and Constantinople. He made numerous sketches and drawings as he went, later using them as the basis for a completed picture or working the sketches up into finished paintings. He returned eventually to Venice and it was there that he met the author John Paget (1808-1892). Paget was an English publisher of travel books who had married the Hungarian Baroness Polyxena Wesselenyi Banffy and lived with her on her estate in Transylvania. He later became famous in that part of Europe for his six volume work published in 1839, Hungary and Transylvania: with remarks on their Condition, Social, Political and Economic. When Paget had to return to Transylvania, Hering went with him together with a man called Sanford and toured through the Carpathian Mountains and their environs. The artist produced numerous illustrations for Paget for inclusion in the latter's book recording this tour of Hungary and following his eventual return to England, Hering published a companion volume: Sketches on the Danube, in Hungary, and Transilvania in 1838. This journey was the last significant one that he made and he returned to London, after an absence of seven years in 1836, to work as a landscape painter, living at addresses in Newman St, Charles St, Southampton St off Fitzroy Square and Maida Vale. In the early 1850s he was sending exhibits from Earlswood Common in Surrey, but soon after was back in London just off Portman Square and remained in the capital for the rest of his life apart from occasional trips to Italy. His wife was also a landscape painter and exhibited views of Italy, the Rhine and Scotland at the British Institution and Royal Academy between 1840 and 1858. Hering exhibited regularly at the Royal Academy (88 times), British Institution (86 times) and the Royal Society of British Artists (10). He could utilise his preparatory draw...