



The Baptism of the Eunuch

Date

ca. 1660

Primary Maker

Salvator Rosa

Medium

Oil on canvas

Description

This is an oil on canvas painting. In the painting Philip, clothed in white and pointing upward, baptizes the kneeling eunuch, whose companions respond with confusion and surprise. The scene unfolds in a barren, rock-bound landscape, a gloomy and forbidding setting typical of Rosa. Characteristic, too, of Rosa's restive, proto-Romantic art is the galvanic mood of 'storm and stress' that courses through the scene and manifests itself particularly in the Ethiopians' theatrical gestures, wide-eyed expressions and exotic costumes.

Dimensions

79 x 48 in. (200.7 x 121.9 cm) Overall, Frame: 93 1/8 x 62 1/4 x 3 1/2 in. (236.5 x 158.1 x 8.9 cm)