



Study for the Angel Appearing to the Shepherds

Date

ca. 1831

Primary Maker

Thomas Cole

Medium

Oil on board

Description

This is an oil on board study for the painting *The Angel Appearing to the Shepherds* (80.30). It is one of three preparatory sketches for the large painting, and of the three this one is believed to be the oldest. On the left side of the canvas, a palm tree leans as an angel dressed in blue glides toward the shepherds, dressed in blue, red and a tan/gold cloaks. Sheep graze under the palm tree and the foreground may depict a river. A large star is on the right side of the canvas and distant buildings are barely visible.

Dimensions

Overall: 4 1/2 x 6 1/8 in. (11.4 x 15.6 cm) Overall, Frame: 8 x 9 1/2 x 2 in. (20.3 x 24.1 x 5.1 cm)