

Basic Detail Report



Susanna and the Elders

Date

ca. 1632-1636

Primary Maker

Christoffel Jegher

Medium

woodcut

Description

Jegher executed twelve prints after Rubens in a remarkably close association between the two: Rubens apparently drew his designs directly on the woodblocks, Jegher cut the blocks, and Rubens corrected trial proofs until both artists were satisfied. The woodcut on view relates to a Rubens drawing in the Louvre (Lugt 1132); no comparable painting is known, though the perspective view of the garden is a quote from the Villa Borghese painting in Rome (1608-09) and the rectangular format with balustrade and fountain originates in the Academia de San Fernando painting in Madrid (c. 1610). The subject is from the Book of Daniel, which describes the attempted seduction, refusal, and eventual triumph of Susanna over Elders of the community. In Hebrew, Susanna means lily, a symbol of purity.

Dimensions

17 1/2 × 22 7/8 in. (44.5 × 58.1 cm)