

Basic Detail Report



Title Telemachus in the Island of Calypso

Date 1805-1810

Primary Maker Sally Patten

Medium Embroidery; silk threads and watercolor on a plain-woven silk ground

Frame: wood, glass, gold and black paint

Description Needlework picture consisting of gold, yellow, bronze, tan, light brown, medium and light green, and cream silk threads, and watercolor on a plain-woven, cream-colored silk ground; the picture is labeled "TELEMACHUS IN THE ISLAND OF CALYPSO." The picture shows a seated man in sandals a robe between two young woman in classical dress; the women are handing flowers to the seated man. To the right is an older man and woman, also wearing classical costume. The figures are standing in front of a rocky backdrop, with a dark sky in

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the right background. The needlework picture is behind glass that is painted

black at the edges; the title is painted in gold at the bottom center. The gilded

wooden frame (original) consists of one deeply curved molding. Each edge of the

silk ground is sewn to a strip of linen, which is in turn nailed or tacked to a

wooden stretcher (original). Watercolor is painted directly onto the ground; this

forms the sky and faces, limbs and feet of the individuals in the picture. Stitches:

The primary stitch on the needlework picture is satin stitch; it also includes long

and short, encroaching satin, flat, and overlay work. Condition: The silk thread is

faded moderately. A piece of cardboard has been inserted into the back of the

stretcher, to support the silk ground. Small areas of gold paint on the frame are

flaking.

Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of frame): 26 1/4 x 32in. (66.7 x

81.3cm) Component (height x width of stretcher): 22 5/8 x 28 1/4in. (57.5 x 71.8

cm)