Basic Detail Report



Title St. John the Evangelist

Date 1776-1780

Primary Maker Prudence Punderson

Medium Embroidery; silk thread and ink on a plain-woven silk ground

Description Needlework picture worked in black, brown, light and dark green, cream, yellow and light blue silk threads on a plain-woven gold silk ground, using a surface satin stitch and other stitches. At the bottom is a hand-written inscription in black ink: "St. John the Evangelist." This is one of a group of twelve

Basic Detail Report

silk needlework pictures; each depicts an apostle and has an ink inscription at the bottom with the name of the apostle. The needlework picture is rectangular, oriented vertically. It shows a man in profile standing on a rocky shore looking out to sea. He wears a long black robe, or banyan, holds a book in his right hand, and a chalice containing a winged snake in his left hand. At this feet are small flowers an an eagle with partially outstretched wings. At sea is a sailing vessel with three masts and two flags. The sky has several fluffy clouds. The edges of the needlwork picture are whip-stitched. The picture is hand-drawn with blue ink and some red ink directly on the ground. The needlework is embroidered in untwisted silk and silk floss. The ground has 112 yarns per inch in the warp and 80 yarns per inch in the weft. Stitches: The principal stitch is the surface satin stitch; it also includes satin, stem, running, and feather stitches. Condition: There is some loss to the ground at the right edge, the lower right corner and the bottom edge. There is some fading to the ground and embroidery. The needlework picture has been cleaned gently then stitched to a plain-woven cotton support fabric applied to a rigid mount. The picture is not framed. Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width of ground): 9 3/8 x 8 3/8in. (23.8 x 21.3cm) Mount (height x width): 9 1/2 x 8 1/2in. (24.1 x 21.6cm)