Basic Detail Report



Title Judas Iscariot.

Date 1776-1780

Primary Maker Prudence Punderson

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

Description Needlework picture worked in black, dark brown, green, light and dark blue, yellow and cream 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: "Judas Iscariot./ Who betrayed his Lord, and hang'd

himself." This is one of a group of twelve silk needlework pictures; each depicts an apostle and has an ink inscription at the bottom with the name of the apostle and a description of their death. The needlework picture is rectangular, oriented vertically. It shows a man lying on the ground with his eyes closed and one arm covering his face. He is lying beneath a pear tree with birds and a butterfly below the branches of the tree. A length of rope, or noose, hangs from one branch. To the left is a tall sunflower bush. In the foreground is a black, wide-brimmed hat and a butterfly. All four edges of the needlework are whip-stitched. The selvedge is at the top of the needlework. The picture is hand-drawn in black and red ink then embroidered in untwisted silk and 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, and some free-form stitches. Condition: 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 x 8 1/4in. (22.9 x 21cm) Mount (height x width): 9 1/2 x 8 1/2in. (24.1 x 21.6cm)