



JAN VAN GOYEN

(Leiden 1596–1656 The Hague)

River landscape with figures. Circa 1628.

Oil on panel.

Signed and dated centre right on the headland: I.V.GOIEN 16(28).

60.3 × 30 cm.

Provenance: - Collection of C. R. Kelly, London (label verso). - European private collection. The painting offered here at auction is a typical work by the landscape painter Jan van Goyen, born in Leiden, which was produced circa 1628. By this time van Goyen had detached himself from the influence of his teacher Esaias van de Velde (1587–1630) and had forged his own style with his 'atmospheric' landscapes. In doing so, he exchanged the more colourful palette of his early

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works for a monochrome rendition of the Dutch landscape in browns, greys and greens. The panel offered here is characteristic of this phase and features a simplified, but very effective diagonal compositional scheme. The work was executed entirely using a swift wet-in-wet painting technique, which was typical of this artist. Van Goyen was one of the most important landscape painters of the early 17th century in Holland and made a significant contribution to the popularisation of Dutch landscapes. Our thanks to Dr. Christiaan Vogelaar who has confirmed the authenticity of this painting on the basis of a photograph. He describes it as an especially exquisite example of Jan van Goyen's work.

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