

J. L. JENSEN
1800–1856

59. *Pink Roses and Lilies*

(*Lyserøde roser og liljer*)

Oil on panel, 10 x 15⁷/₈ in. (25.5 x 39.1 cm)

Signed lower right: I.L. Jensen

PROVENANCE: Arne Bruun Rasmussen, Auction 454, 1983, lot 364 (described as *Lyserøde roser og liljer*).

Roses and lilies are often included in Jensen's works. Here they appear on their own, though with a single myrtle protruding at the bottom in this horizontally placed bouquet, the central feature of which is the lilies in full flower. Could it be a bridal bouquet? The lily represents innocence, chastity, and a woman's dignity. The rose is for love, and when in bud it represents a presentiment of love. The myrtle is the pledge of tender, domestic affection. We come very close to the flowers in all their sweetness, and the bouquet is so radiant that it almost bursts out of the picture.

An almost identical picture was sold in Kunsthallen, Auction 27.3.1985, lot 80, measuring 11 ⁴/₅ x 16¹/₂ in. (or 30 x 42 cm). Which of the two is the replica cannot be determined.

M. T.

The following flowers are seen in the painting:

Lilium candidum L., "madonna lily"; *Myrtus communis* L., "lyrtle"; *Rosa*?

T. T.