

WILHELM MARSTRAND

1810–1873

88. *The Goose Girl, Rome*

(*Gåsepigen, italiensk pige med en gås i romersk park*)

Oil on canvas, 20 x 14½ in. (51 x 37 cm)

Signed with initials lower left: W.M.

PROVENANCE: Kunsthallen, Auction 440, 1994, lot 93, ill. p. 25.

Wilhelm Marstrand visited Rome three times. The first two stays were the longest: from 1836 to 1840 and again from 1845 to 1848, though this latter was interrupted with an excursion during the summer to Ischia and Sicily. During the summer and autumn of 1869, Marstrand was again in Rome, this time accompanied by the painter P. C. Skovgaard and the lithographer Adolph Kittendorff (1820–1902).

This charming portrayal of a pretty young girl, who has apparently been collecting eggs in her apron and is anxiously drawing back from a goose of rather belligerent aspect, is thought to be set in a Roman park. Marstrand had perhaps captured the situation in his sketchpad with a view to later developing the painting, but it is not possible to say exactly when he did so.

S.L.