

Basic Detail Report

**Title**

The Temptation of Saint Anthony (after Camillo Procaccini, 1555-1629)

Artist

Abraham Blooteling

Date

17th century

Dimensions

Overall: 15 1/8 x 9 3/8 in. (38.4 x 23.8 cm)

Medium

Mezzotint

Classifications

Prints

Credit Line

William J. Hitchcock Fund in memory of Grace J. Hitchcock

Object number

1993.83

Exhibition History

TMA, The Dramatic Image: Baroque Prints of the 17th Century, February 25 - July 31, 2011.

Collections

Works on Paper

Label Text

According to legend, the early Christian hermit Saint received vivid hallucinations from the devil in an effort to tempt the hermit to renounce his faith. The subject became a popular one in art, often depicted as a supernatural struggle with evil. Here Saint Anthony lies on his side, twisting to confront the forces surrounding him. He is being held down. As he attempts to raise himself, his tormentors—demonic creatures wielding clubs, chains, and burning torches—bear down upon him. Camillo Procaccini was an Italian painter and etcher from Bologna who lived and worked in Milan. Abraham Blooteling's interpretation of Procaccini's design fully exploited the ability of the mezzotint to render extreme contrasts of light and dark (tenebrism), a hallmark of Baroque style.

Not On View