

# Basic Detail Report

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**Title**

Figures in a Landscape: Two Nude Youths

**Artist**

Luca Signorelli

**Date**

about 1490

**Dimensions**

painting: 27 1/4 x 16 1/4 in. (69.2 x 41.3 cm) frame: 32 1/4 x 21 7/8 x 3 3/4 in.

**Medium**

Oil on wood panel

**Classifications**

Paintings

**Credit Line**

Purchased with funds from the Libbey Endowment, Gift of Edward Drummond Libbey

**Object number**

1955.222A

**Published References**

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## Exhibition History

London, Burlington Fine Arts Club, *The Work of Luca Signorelli and His School*, 1893, nos. 10, 11.

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## Collections

Paintings

### Label Text

Admired by Michelangelo and Raphael, Luca Signorelli's expressive depictions of the body reveal his study of anatomy—an interest that many Italian artists shared in the late 1400s. Looking at classical sculpture, in which the human body was celebrated as the most beautiful expression of nature, many Renaissance artists sought to surpass the achievements of ancient Greek and Roman artists. Originally part of a large altarpiece in a church in Siena, these panels of bathers formed a backdrop to a sculpture of Saint Christopher carrying the Christ Child across a river (in a pose echoed by the woman and baby in the right panel). Look carefully and you can see where Signorelli changed the position of the woman's raised arm.

Such changes, visible because the upper layer of paint has become transparent with age, are called pentimenti—Italian for “repentances.”

**On View**

Toledo Museum of Art (2445 Monroe Street), Gallery, 19