

Basic Detail Report

**Title**

Landscape with Horse Trainers

Artist

Aelbert Cuyp

Date

about 1655 or 1660

Dimensions

Painting: 46 3/4 × 67 in. (118.7 × 170.2 cm) Frame: 57 × 77 × 4 in. (144.8 × 195.6 × 10.2 cm)

Medium

oil on canvas

Classifications

Paintings

Credit Line

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

Object number

1960.2

Published References

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Collections

Paintings

Label Text

The dying light of evening, casting long shadows and a golden haze over the landscape, was a specialty of Aelbert Cuyp and is particularly striking in this painting. Cuyp combines the low horizon and prominent sky of local Dutch landscapes with aspects of Italian-inspired landscapes, such as the shepherd, broken columns, classical sculpture, and the mountain. Probably painted for a wealthy family in Dordrecht, the painting shows a school for training horses in the system of precise movements known as dressage, an aristocratic refinement of horsemanship that was first formalized in the 1600s. Under the supervision of the mounted riding master at the right, a horse is being taught the levade, in which the animal rises on its hind legs. It has not quite mastered the maneuver, however, since its front legs should be tucked in close to its body. The horse's mistake perhaps accounts for the agitation of one of the grooms.

On View

Toledo Museum of Art (2445 Monroe Street), Gallery, 23