

Basic Detail Report

**Title**

A Sea View

Artist

Hugo Simberg

Date

about 1907-1917

Dimensions

13 1/4 × 19 in. (33.6 × 48.3 cm)

Medium

Oil on panel

Classifications

Paintings

Credit Line

Purchased with funds given by Dr. John and Marja Dooner

Object number

2020.6

Collections**Label Text**

A major protagonist of the Finnish “Golden Age” of painting—about 1880 to about 1910—Hugo Simberg painted Symbolist fantasies inspired by Finnish folklore, in addition to portraits and landscapes. Here, the artist depicts a vista of Vyborg Bay, which is located at the northeast end of the Gulf of Finland in the Baltic Sea. For almost his entire life Simberg spent his summers on the coast at Niemenlauta, his family’s summer residence near Viipuri (also known as Vyborg in Swedish). The artist even built a studio facing the sea. The glittering light on the water and the evergreen tree rising above the horizon line, as well as the Symbolist features of the painting such as the clouds with their extraordinary “tails,” the burnt down fire on the beach, and the enigmatic footprints in the foreground, all endow the composition with an air of mystery. Simberg’s *A Sea View* is the first painting by a Finnish artist to enter the collection of the Toledo Museum of Art.

On View

Toledo Museum of Art (2445 Monroe Street), Gallery, 33