



Standing Woman (pastel no. 124)

Date

1918-1925

Primary Maker

Thomas Wilmer Dewing

Medium

Pastel on brown paper

Description

Thomas Wilmer Dewing (1851-1938) was an American Gilded Age painter active in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. He was an important member of the Tonalist movement, which used muted, natural tones to arouse a scene's mood rather than capture the fleeting impression of it through color, as Impressionism did. As with many artists of his time, including James Abbott McNeill Whistler

(American, 1834-1903), who was his primary influence, Dewing tended to depict idealized, wealthy women of 30-40. After transitioning from oil on canvas to pastel on brown paper in approximately 1918, his works managed to bring something entirely new to the genre. Stokes pressed ever so lightly into the brown paper of their support; faces blurred to abstraction; and colors ranging from muted to neutral all give the elegant women ethereal, dreamlike airs.

Dimensions

Overall: 15 x 12 in. (38.1 x 30.5 cm)