

Basic Detail Report



Moonlit Trail

Date

c. 1932

Primary Maker

Frank Tenney Johnson

Medium

Oil on canvas

Description

Frank Tenney Johnson was a successful illustrator in New York, but like many artists in the commercial field, dreamed of being free to paint easel works full time. From the earliest days of his career he was attracted to scenes of the American West, to which he traveled to get material for his paintings. Starting in the early 1920s, he began to spend increasingly more time in Los Angeles, where he actually painted many of his Western works. Unlike some other artists of western scenes, he was not interested in fast action; rather he specialized in nocturnal scenes of cowboys and horses, often featuring night herders, packers, and sometimes Pony Express riders. His background in illustration made him one of the most accomplished of the local figure painters.

Dimensions

Framed: 20 1/2 × 24 × 1 3/4 in. (52.1 × 61 × 4.4 cm)