Workers

Keith Vaughan

Sold

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REF: 10888

Description

KEITH VAUGHAN
(British, 1912-1977)
Workers

Pencil
Circa 1941

'It seems to me that the only way I can go through with a war is to fid something which I believe to be worth fighting for. The reasons we are given by the government which makes the war I do not accept. Therefore I cannot align myself along with the rest of my people - as I believe they are being misled and will be fighting for something which is not in their interests.' After the first London air raid he volunteered for the St John's Ambulance Brigade. After his brother's death he in May 1940 he registered as a conscientious objector on the grounds that 'I objected to the wiful slaughter of my fellow men'. At his tribunal he agreed serve in the Army Medical Corps as a non-combat

During the war KV was moved to successive camps in the South of England in which he did physical work on the land until 1943 when he was sent to Yorkshire. The summer of 1941 was very hot and the 9th Company were marched to Codford and set up tents for the whole summer so they could help with harvesting and haymaking. He tried to recapture the pastoral simplicity in his drawings of this time. 'Arms of polished bronze dusted with gold hair lifted high beneath the hay tossing the pollen laden-ripeness against blue sky.. I have lived in and been part of something I have always dreamed about'. Workers was most likely executed at this time.

Sheet height 22 cm. 8 ¾ in. Length 20 cm., 8 in.
In a black, stained oak frame
Frame height 38 cm. 15 in. Length 36 cm., 14 in.

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