

CAMILLE PISSARRO
(1830 - 1903)

Études de paysannes

Watercolour and charcoal on paper
14 x 22.2 cm (5 $^{1}/_{2}$ x 8 $^{3}/_{4}$ inches)
Signed with monogram lower right, *C.P.*
Executed *circa* 1880

Provenance
Hammer Galleries, New York

Marjorie F. Shushan Estate

This work is accompanied by a letter confirming the authenticity of the work by Dr. Joachim Pissarro and will be included in the forthcoming Catalogue Raisonné of Drawings by Camille Pissarro.

In 1880, Pissarro began what would become a large series of figure paintings focused on rural women shown at work or at rest in a rural environment. Pissarro's scenes of rural leisure contrasted with Millet's depiction of peasants, who were shown for the most part engaged in backbreaking labour, while

Pissarro depicted a more relaxed sense of rural labour balanced by plentiful leisure time. The drawing Figure Studies is an example of a sheet with multiple figure studies of female figures and reveals how Pissarro played with different poses and views of the peasants in preparation for his oil paintings. The figure studies in the current drawing appear to relate to this series of paintings of figures that Pissarro executed starting in the 1880s.

The figure on bottom right corner of Études de paysannes, appears to lean her hand on a vertical structure, therefore it is possible the figure is a preparatory sketch for a figure in a kitchen garden. Pissarro made several oil paintings of these kitchen gardens, such as the painting titled Paysanne bêchant, jardin de Maubuisson, Pontoise of 1881, no. 646 in the Pissarro & Durand-Ruel Catalogue Raisonné.

This original artwork by Camille Pissarro is available for immediate purchase.