



Jamie Wyeth

Title

The Raven

Medium

Oil on canvas

Date

1980

Dimensions

60 × 72 in. (152.4 × 182.9 cm)

Accession number

92.6

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Credit Line

Purchased with Museum funds, 1992

Web Description

"I was alone for two months when I was doing [Raven], and I got this whole thing of, 'Is it alive with me, in the dark?' Totally freaked me out." This large-scale painting marks Wyeth's transition from New York City to the worlds of Monhegan and Southern Islands. Andy Warhol saw it in 1980, at Wyeth's one-man exhibit at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts; after visiting, he noted in his diary that "Jamie is painting bigger—more Pop—pictures now. I told him he should go even bigger." With mottled, glossy feathers and one gleaming, beady eye, this larger-than-life raven approaches the edge of the canvas with its beak partly open, ready to attack its prey.