



Howard Pyle

Title

Spring

Medium

Oil on canvas

Date

1901

Dimensions

30 × 12 in. (76.2 × 30.5 cm)

Accession number

92.13

Credit Line

Gift of Bertha Bates Cole in memory of Bertha Corson Day Bates, 1992

Web Description

Howard Pyle's *Spring* presents an allegorical figure of a young woman ensconced in a luxurious display of cherry blossoms. She gently extends three daffodils toward the viewer, while the other hand is pressed tight to her chest. The gesture suggests the act of gift-giving, which is fitting for this painting. Unlike most of Pyle's work in this gallery, *Spring* was not commissioned as an illustration, but given as a wedding present to his student Bertha Corson Day in 1902. Day began studying with Pyle in 1894, completing a four-year course at the Drexel Institute and continuing as an advanced and summer school student. She completed illustrations for novels, advertising, and a book of fairy tales written by Pyle's sister Katharine in 1902. The painting also served as a farewell of sorts from her mentor. After her marriage, Day gave up commercial

illustration.