



Henriette Wyeth, Peter Hurd

Title

Peter Hurd in a Landscape

Medium

Oil on canvas

Date

1972

Dimensions

40 × 48 1/4 in. (101.6 × 122.6 cm)

Catalogue Number

97.18

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Credit Line

Purchased with the Museum Volunteers' Fund, 1997

Web Description

The oldest child of N.C. Wyeth and his wife, Carolyn, Henriette studied art with her father, as well as at the Normal Art School in Boston and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. In 1929 she married the artist Peter Hurd, her father's student, and they moved to his native New Mexico to paint and raise a family. Henriette painted landscapes and floral still lifes, and was also nationally known as a portraitist. Over her career she also made sensitive portraits of family members. Here she connects her husband, the artist Peter Hurd, to the landscape of his native New Mexico, which figured prominently in his art. She depicts him as monumental as the broad desert and low mountains behind him. The play of cool and warm tones in his figure is repeated in the hills and unifies the painting. Known as an active, energetic man, Hurd's expression, though with hat in hand as if ready to go, nonetheless exudes patience and self-assurance. His arms are folded yet relaxed across his chest over the Mexican leather jacket that is delicately ornamented with silver thread.