



Inv. no. 118/2006

PARTLY COLORED DRAWING PASTED ON AN ALBUM LEAF.
'SEATED *PERI* WITH A POMEGRANATE'

TURKEY, ISTANBUL; C.1600

DRAWING: 17.8 × 11.2 CM

This elegant drawing of a *peri* differs from contemporary but more narrative Turkish miniature painting, and one can sense a greater link with the Persian tradition. The characteristic leaf-like forms that make up the hat and wings are also found extensively as a decoration in other Ottoman art – the *saz* style.

Peris are not angels, although in certain traditions they are said to be descended from fallen angels. They can best be compared to ancient supernatural beings such as fairies or elves and are generally androgynous. They are frequently seen playing the lute, pouring wine, serving fruit, or simply look graceful, like this *peri*.

Published in:

Sotheby's, London, 1/7-1969, lot 324;

Kjeld von Folsach: *For the Privileged Few: Islamic Miniature Painting from The David Collection*, Louisiana, Humlebæk 2007, cat.no. 62;

Kjeld von Folsach, Joachim Meyer: *The Human Figure in Islamic Art – Holy Men, Princes, and Commoners*, The David Collection, Copenhagen 2017, fig. 62, p. 257;