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COLORED DRAWING PASTED ON AN ALBUM LEAF. 'AN OLD AND A YOUNG MAN AND A WOMAN HAVING A PICNIC.' ATTRIBUTED TO MUHAMMAD ALI

IRAN, ISFAHAN; C. 1650

DRAWING: 17.8 × 11.4 CM

A group consisting of an old and a young man and a woman standing is enjoying a glass of wine outdoors. The relaxed trio is surrounded by an eccentric landscape whose fantastic rock formations look like frozen waves strewn with oysters, flanked by a spiky, leafy tree against a background of a blue sky covered with wild clouds.

The drawing was made by Muhammad Ali, one of Riza-i Abbasi's many talented successors. The album leaf probably comes from a now dispersed *Diwan* by Hafiz that Muhammad Ali illustrated together with Muhammad Yusuf.

Most of the manuscript is now divided between the Topkapi Museum in Istanbul and the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin.

Published in:

Sotheby's, London, 18/6-1962, lot 78;

Kjeld von Folsach: *For the Privileged Few: Islamic Miniature Painting from The David Collection*, Louisiana, Humlebæk 2007, cat.no. 91;

Linda Komaroff (ed.): *Dining with the Sultan: the fine art of feasting*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles 2023, cat. 91c, pp. 274-276;