



HAWTHORNE
Fine Art

FRANK B. A. LINTON (1871-1943)

Still Life with Peaches and Cookware

Oil on masonite

36 x 48 inches

Signed lower left

EXHIBITIONS: Philadelphia Art Week, 1924 [partial label on verso]

A highly regarded painter during his time, Frank Linton's legacy has endured in his prolific portrait paintings. As a teenager, Linton studied under the realist painter and photographer Thomas Eakins (1844-1916) for a period of five years, before traveling to Paris at the age of nineteen to study under Jean-Léon Gérôme (1824-1904) and Léon Bonnat (1833-1922) at the École des Beaux-Arts, and under Jean-Joseph Benjamin-Constant (1845-1902), Jean-Paul Laurens (1838-1921), and William-Adolphe Bouguereau (1825-1905) at the Academie Julien. Linton showed an early talent for portraiture, and was awarded a silver medal at the American Art Exhibition in 1894, at the age of only twenty-three.

Still Life with Peaches and Cookware, unusual in Linton's body of work as a still-life piece, still carries much of the nuance and depth of his figure paintings. In the dark palette and dim lighting characteristic of his portraiture, Linton's minute brushstrokes and restrained palette make for an exacting realism inherited from his French teachers and, most significantly, Thomas Eakins. Set against a dusky backdrop, two fundamentally opposing materials—the organic, supple skins of the peaches and the interior sheen of the overturned copper basin—mirror each other in color and visual weight, creating a pleasant dissonance of composition and tactility.

During his lifetime, Linton's work was exhibited at the Corcoran Art Gallery, at the Knoedler Art Galleries, at the Peabody Institute (Baltimore), and in a solo exhibition at the Reading Art Museum. He exhibited annually (typically two portraits per year) at the Paris Salon until 1938, receiving the gold medal in 1927. Linton was a member of the Philadelphia Art Club, the New York Society of Pennsylvania, and the Internationale Union des Beaux-arts et Lettres.