JEAN-FRANÇOIS HEIM FINE ARTS

GIACOMO GUARDI

Venice 1764 – id. 1835 Italian school

A VIEW OF PIAZZA SAN MARCO, VENICE

Watercolour and gouache on card H. 0,13 m; W. 0,23 m

DATE: c. 1800

PROVENANCE: Private collection

Francesco Guardi was the most famous of the Guardi family, largely because of his success as a view painter. His son Giacomo was a prolific artist in watercolour and gouache.

This small watercolour depicts the Piazza San Marco towards the east, with the golden Basilica of San Marco, the towering campanile and the glorious Doge's Palace along the horizon. To the left stand the 16th Century public offices – the Procuratie Vecchie - and the Torre dell'Orologio. The Procuratie Nuove spread along the right of the scene with various shops and café's dotting the piazza. Small crowds begin to gather, underlining the daily life of Venice within the beautiful scene.