

Henry Stacy Marks, R.A.



A kookaburra

Reference: 11187

KAREN TAYLOR

FINE ART

Dimensions:

Height:	24 cm / 9½ in
Width:	9 cm / 3½ in
Framed Height:	27 cm / 10⅝ in
Framed Width:	18.50 cm / 7¼ in

Signed with initials l.r.: HSM, watercolour over traces of pencil on buff paper heightened with white

24 x 9 cm.; 5 ¾ x 3 ¾ inches

Frame size 27 x 18.5 cm.; 9½ x 7 ½ inches

Provenance

The Fine Art Society

Marks' earlier works were usually historical and literary, especially Shakespearian and sometimes humorous. However, he became increasingly interested in painting birds and this body of work was highly praised by John Ruskin. Marks had three exhibitions in six years at the Fine Art Society in London, the first of which was Birds in Bond Street in 1889. He was a frequent visitor to London Zoo where he was frequently approached by other curious visitors. He wrote in his preface to the 1890 catalogue: "The most common remark I hear is, "Ah pretty creature! Don't he seem to know he's sitting for his picture?" and concluded "... I hope I may be excused, and not held too eccentric, in preferring to converse with a parrot for one hour, rather than with a politician for two". The Victoria and Albert Museum have a holding of his work.

The artist was born in London, the fourth child of John Isaac Marks, a solicitor. He studied in London at the Royal Academy Schools and later in Paris. He exhibited at the Royal Academy and elsewhere from 1853. He was elected ARA in 1870 and became a full RA in 1878.