



Jan Weenix (Amsterdam 1640 - Amsterdam 1719)

A grouse, kingfisher, and other game birds with a hare and a basket of fruit at the foot of a carved stone urn, an Italianate garden with a fountain beyond

signed and dated 'J. Weenix. f / 1706' (center right)

oil on canvas

48 ½ by 39 ¼ in. (123 by 99.8 cm.)

This elegant picture dates to the first decade of the 18th century, Weenix's most successful period during which he developed the French-influenced style that made his works so desirable to an increasingly international clientele. His compositions from around this time frequently include classically-inspired objects, such as the elegantly carved urn in the present work, and often feature highly manicured Italianate gardens, like the one visible here at background left. Two copies of the present composition are known, testifying to its appeal and popularity: one formerly in the Neuwstraten collection (sold Paris, Drouot, 10-11 May 1904, lot 32) and another formerly in the Ludens collection (sold Amsterdam, Roos, 18 November 1913, lot 107). The unusual garden in the present work, distinguished by its dramatically tall hedges and large fountain, also appears in Weenix's *The White Peacock* in the Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Vienna.

Provenance:

Mr. N. Armstrong, London; Sotheby's, London, 10 July 2003, lot 28.

Anonymous sale; Sotheby's, London, 7 July 2004, lot 12.

with Noortman Fine Art, Maastricht, 2006.

Private collection since 2012.