

**Paul Starrett Sample (1896 - 1974)**

*Central Park*

signed lower right

watercolor

14 1/2" x 16"

Paul Starrett Sample was a recent college graduate and young veteran of World War I when he contracted tuberculosis. While undergoing treatment in Saranac Lake, New York he took drawing and painting lessons from artist Jonas Lie (1880-1940), whose wife was being treated for the same disease in the same facility. Lie became Sample's mentor and encouraged him to pursue a career in the arts. After his release from medical care in 1925, he moved to New York City and began taking classes at the Greenleaf Art School.

Over the course of Sample's career, he traveled widely. He resided in California, Vermont, and Dartmouth at different points in his life while participating in annual national juried exhibitions at such organizations as the National Academy of Design, the Art Institute of Chicago, the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the Carnegie Institute. As a result of this national exposure, several New York City galleries started to exhibit his work. Commissions from Fortune magazine provided an opportunity to tour the nation's ports for several months in 1936, and in 1942 he was hired as an artist correspondent for Life magazine.

Many of Sample's early paintings, such as *Central Park* include genre elements – images of people engaged in everyday activities. The blanket of snow unifies an otherwise very structural composition, and lends a lyrical quality to the work. The balanced integration of landscape and industry that appears here distinguishes Sample from many of his contemporaries.

**Provenance:** From the trade to the gallery.

**Bibliography:**

[www.askart.com](http://www.askart.com)