



Carl Haag, RWS  
*'Kieff Yaus' (Rest is sweet), 1893*

CARL HAAG, RWS

1820-1915

*'KIEFF YAUS' (REST IS SWEET), 1893*

Signed, inscribed and dated lower left: 'Kieff Yaoos! Carl Haag 1893.' (lower left); Also signed, inscribed and dated on a label on the reverse. Kieff Yaous! (Rest is sweet!) by Carl Haag, R.W.S. Hofmaler to H.R.H. the reigning Duke of Saxe Coburg-Gotha, Ida Villa, 7 Lyndhurst Rd. Hampstead, London N.W., 1893."

Pencil, ink, watercolour and gouache on card  
26 x 36.5 cm; 10 1/4 x 14 1/4 in.

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Provenance

Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Collection by 1893;  
*Orientalisme Art Islamique Philhellénisme*, Tajan, Paris, May 2022, Lot. 35;  
*Anonymous Sale*, Sotheby's London, October 2022, Lot. 48;  
Private Collection, England.



Carl Haag was a Bavarian-born painter who became British and was court painter to the duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. He was born in Erlangen and was trained in the Academy of Fine Arts Nuremberg and at Munich. He initially practised as an illustrator and as a painter in oils of portraits and architectural subjects; but in 1847 he settled in England, where he studied English watercolour techniques. After this he devoted himself to watercolours.

In 1850, Haag was elected an associate of the Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours before becoming a full member in 1853. He also enjoyed the patronage of Queen Victoria. Between 1858 and 1860, he travelled to the Middle East, at first staying for more than a year in Cairo where he shared a studio with fellow artist Frederick Goodall. Later he journeyed to Jerusalem, Lebanon and Syria before returning to Cairo. During this period, he made many sketches which he worked up into paintings after returning to London. He returned to Egypt in 1873–74 to gather inspiration for further Oriental paintings. Haag was a prolific and important painter of Holy Land scenes. He gained a considerable reputation for his firmly drawn and meticulously elaborated paintings of Eastern subjects. Some of his depictions of the Middle East are in the Israel Museum's collection. In 1903, he retired and towards the end of his life, he left England and returned to the newly united German Empire, where he died in Oberwesel in 1915.

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