

OSBORNE SAMUEL

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

BEN NICHOLSON (1894-1982)



Assisi, 1955

37 x 48 cms
(14.54 x 18.86 in)

Pencil on artist's prepared card
Inscribed verso 'Assisi / Oct 8-55 / Ben Nicholson'
Blind stamped 'REEVES BRISTOL BOARD' (upper right)

Provenance:
The Leger Galleries, London
Private Collection
Osborne Samuel, London

Nicholson's work in Italy, although closely related to the central concerns of his art, is a special category in his oeuvre, which demonstrates his appreciation of Italian architecture and landscape. He visited Italy in 1950 and this was his first trip to the country since the end of the

OSBORNE SAMUEL

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

Second World War. Nicholson produced various drawings of some of his most favourite views throughout Italy – the regions of Tuscany, Lazio and Umbria. Peter Khoroché has commented that, “laying no claim to a technical or historical knowledge of architecture, what interested him was the shape, the proportion, the lie of a building. Building, like objects, were a starting point only, naturally there was no point in mere imitation. Architecture in landscape offered an opportunity to combine his love of precise structure with his feeling of poetry and acute sensitivity to the spirit of place”.