Mary Linwood
(1755-1845)

Allison Williams
Early Life

- Born 1755 in Birmingham, UK
- Parents: Matthew and Hannah Linwood (6 Children)
- Father: Bankruptcy and death early in her life
- Mother: Opens a boarding school for young ladies in Leicester
- The Priority: Taught drawing, writing, dancing, and embroidery
- Began needlework, later needlepainting, around age 20
Works

- Needlepainting
- Recreated famous paintings (Alexander Cozens, Thomas Barker, Moses Haughton the Elder, George Morland, John Russell, Thomas Gainsborough)
- Mostly large landscapes, English countryside, and rural landscapes
- Very popular
  - One example sent to Russia’s Catherine the Great
  - Once offered 2000-3000 guineas for one work (refused)
  - Work was on display MANY times
Later Life (End)

- Took over the school after her mother died in 1805 (while still working on her own art)
- By 1830, she had mostly stopped doing these elaborate pieces for health reasons.
- Died 1845 in London, unmarried and childless
  - She didn’t use her “feminine” skill of embroidery to catch a husband, but used it to catch an audience.
- Buried in the same cemetery as her parents
Works After Death

- Exhibit in Leicester Square for approx. 40 years (from 1809 to just after death)
- Her collection eventually sold for less than 1000 pounds (est. 300)
- Left one of her works (*Salvator Mundi*) to Queen Victoria
- Decline in admiration for her work as modern art took over
- Fell so far out of fashion that one museum declined housing her work because it lacked historical importance
- Now housed in The Royal Collection, Leicestershire Museums, and the Victoria and Albert Museum (what’s left, anyways)
Judgement of Cain
Salvator Mundi
A Boy with a Cat VS Country Child (Girl with a Cat)
Napoleon
Self Portrait
Citations


  https://books.google.com/books?id=MJODODwAAQBAJ&pg=PR7&dq=Mary+Linwood&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiyw7mExKTkAhUkn-AKHcncDvMQ6AEwBXoECAQQAQ#v=onepage&q=Mary%20Linwood&f=false

- “A Legacy of Needlework – Part Three – Mary Linwood.” *NumberOneLondon*, 2019,  


Citations

  
- Note: This page could not be found, but the image was located through Google Images. This link was listed for origin.