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David TENIERS the Younger

Antwerp 1610 – 1690 Brussels

Figures outside a Cottage, a Town beyond.

Oil on Panel, 24.1 x 34.4 cm.

Signed with Monogram lower center: *DT*



Provenance: With Galerie Guy Stein, Paris, before 1938 ;
Private collection, USA ;
Sale Christie's New York, 19 April 2007, lot 236 (as attributed to);
With Koetser Gallery, Zurich ;
Private Collection, The Netherlands ;
Sale Venduehuis, The Hague, 15 May 2025, lot 6.

Literature : Certificate Dr Margret Klinge, 23 February 2008.

Dr Klinge dates the painting from the Brussels period starting from 1651 till his death in 1690.

Typical from this period is the depiction of simplicity of rural life and the beauty of Flemish landscape. In contrast to the tavern interiors and village kermesses so common in his earlier works, the human element of his compositions became progressively more simplified after 1660- indeed, local gossip is all that takes place in this scene. The narrative revolves around the group of men at the left, one of whom gestures towards something outside of the picture plane, perhaps the storm clouds gathering at the upper right and quickly making their way over the buildings in the middle distance. Sunlight illuminates a patch of the middleground where a shepherd and his flock appear but the stream already reflects the deep grey of the threatening sky overhead.