Tavern Brawl After David Teniers



1830's Oil on Board 52 x 42cm

The last painting on the end wall of the Assembly Rooms is amusingly titled 'Tavern Brawl' and is an excellent copy after David Teniers from the 19th Century Dutch School.

In this tavern brawl we can see a serving girl and two drunken boors outside an inn. This painting may refer to the popular theme of the 'Five Senses', a style and subject of paintings produced two hundred years earlier. Taste is symbolised by the glasses of wine on the table, smell by the upright figure filling his pipe with tobacco and touch by the seated man with his arm around the woman's waist Perhaps he is whispering in her ear therefore an association with the sense of hearing. Sight is represented by the couple in the doorway who look anxiously at the young woman outside, who in turn, gazes out at the viewer who looks upon the painting itself.

