



LULLO | PAMPOULIDES

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DOMENICO MORELLI  
Naples, 1826 - 1901

ALLAH PERDONA QUELLE CHE HANNO MOLTO AMATO  
(ALLAH FORGIVES THOSE THAT HAVE LOVED TOO MUCH)  
1882

Ink on paper, signed 'D Morelli' lower left  
45.5 x 26 cm

## PROVENANCE

Private collection Turin;  
Sold Wannenes, Genova, 18 to 19 March 2021, lot 1293.

This elegant and dynamic drawing in ink on paper is the first known idea - with differences - for an oil on canvas that Morelli painted in 1882. Although the location of the painted work is unknown, it is celebrated within Morelli's oeuvre and has been published on a number of occasions, though occasionally with different titles.

Primo Levi, the renowned chemist, writer and holocaust survivor, was the first to publish it in 1906 with the title of *Allah perdona quelle che hanno molto amato* (P. Levi, Domenico Morelli nella vita e nell'arte, Rome/Turin, 1906, p.182). Francesco Saporì subsequently published it in 1918 with the title the *Guilty women thrown into the Bosphorus and forgiven by Allah*, while also proposing the same date of execution: 1882 (F. Saporì, *Domenico Morelli pittore, I Maestri dell'arte*, Turin, 1918, 1<sup>st</sup> ed., without indication of the location).

The composition is also known through one other preparatory sketch - unquestionably made after the present drawing - published by Ermindo Campana in 1940 (*41 disegni di Morelli*, Naples, 1940; fig.2). The certitude of the present drawing being Morelli's first idea for the composition is due to the fact that the sketch published in 1940 features elements that do not feature on the former, though were included in the finished work, such as the lowest figure spiralling out of the water.





Fig. 1 Domenico Morelli, *Allah perdona quelle che hanno molto amato*, 1882  
Oil on canvas, location unknown



Fig. 2 Domenico Morelli, *Allah perdonà quelle che hanno molto amato*, 1882  
Ink on paper, location unknown