

Basic Detail Report



Gin Lane

Date

1751

Primary Maker

William Hogarth

Medium

Etching and engraving on medium weight laid paper

Description

William Hogarth London 1712–1784 London Gin Lane
1751 Etching and engraving Plate: 15 5/16 x 12 5/8 inches
(38.9 x 32.1 cm) Sheet: 22 x 17 5/8 inches (55.9 x 44.8
cm) Paulson 186 iii/iv Membership Purchase Fund
76.103.066 This pair of well-known views constitutes a
realistic if mostly imaginary London stage set for

representing the moral contrast between an honest and life-enhancing local product—beer—and the evils associated with a much stronger and dangerously appealing import—gin. In Gin Lane, the baby falling to its death from the lap of its inebriated mother is echoed in the city itself by a building that is falling down in the center background. Gin is killing the city no less than its people. Stuart M. Blumin

Dimensions

Plate: 15 1/4 x 12 5/8 inches (38.7 x 32.1 cm); Sheet: 22 x 17 5/8 inches (55.9 x 44.8 cm)