

The Masked Ball

Thomas Rowlandson



Description

Thomas Rowlandson (1756-1827)
The Masked Ball

Pen and grey ink over traces of pencil
11.7 by 20.2 cm., 4 1/2 by 8 in.

This is a preliminary drawing, in reverse, for one of Rowlandson's twenty-six illustrations to William Combe's 'The Dance of Life', published by Ackermann in 1817. The engraving is captioned: 'The Mask, that scene of wanton Folly/May convert Mirth to Melancholy.'