



# A princess standing beneath a sapling

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**Not on display**

**Title/Description:** A princess standing beneath a sapling

**Born:** 1650 c. - 1699 c.

**Object Type:** Drawing

**Materials:** Gold, Paper, Watercolour

**Measurements:** h 196 x w 94 mm (frame: 344 x 232 x 20 mm)

**Accession Number:** 539

**Historic Period:** 17th century - Late

**Production Place:** Asia, India, Rajasthan

**School/Style:** Indian Miniatures

**Credit Line:** Donated by Robert and Lisa Sainsbury, 1973

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The Ajmer school lasted from 1630-1800. Its style can be direct, almost folkish. It is thought that Ajmer artists passed their skill in painting elephants on to Kotah - a school that became famous for painting wonderful elephants.

The small state of Sarwar was a fiefdom of Ajmer. Sarwar paintings used a lot of strong lines with muted colours which could give a rather child-like effect. The princess, shown in the posture of an Indian tree-nymph, is probably waiting for her lover (a popular theme in Hindu poems). Her Mughal style dress includes a white jama top over pink pyjamas and an orange shawl. The background is very stylised with indication of a tree-topped knoll in the background and a lotus pond in the front.

Description taken from the 'Art From The Indian Sub-Continent In The Sainsbury Centre' catalogue by Margaret A. Willey (Sainsbury Centre, UEA, 1995).

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## Provenance

Donated to the Sainsbury Centre, University of East Anglia in 1973 as part of the original gift.

