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ART OF MEDICINE

Pieter Brueghel's Winter Landscape with a Bird Trap

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Pieter Bruegel (about 1525-69), *Winter Landscape with a Bird Trap*, 1565. Oil. 38 x 56 cm. Wiltshire, Wilton House.

Art and visual images have long been used to promote healing processes. Research has shown that certain works of art can positively affect patients' clinical outcomes. Representations of nature—for example, a picture of a pond surrounded by trees—can have beneficial effects, whereas abstract artworks, those open to a variety of conceptual interpretations, appear to be less therapeutic in a hospital or nursing-home setting [1-10].

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