Costermans

Since 1839

David playing the harp before Saul, after an engraving by Lucas van Leyden

28.8 x 23/8 .x 3/4 8icnmc h(e1 s1)

Oil on panel

17th century

The scene illustrates an episode in
opposing David to King Saul. After h
the young shepherd is elevated to tl
the king is won over by jealousy and
the harp, is called by God to appeas
engraving of Lucas van Leyden repre
David playing. Subsequently, the kin
on the young shepherd's life, a thre
places in the hands of Saul a spear

The scene unfolds in a space only su
background, where the throne of Sau
element. In the foreground, the kin
weariness and melancholy. He wears
oriental headgear, a sign of his ro
pointed at the harp player. His dark
that inhabits him. He stares fixedly
the scene and introduces him into th

To his left, David, a calm young man
the harp. Between the king and the s
conversation, one dressed in red, th