

**Samuel Stringer (1750-1783)**  
**GORDALE SCAR, YORKSHIRE, 1772**

Oil on canvas 45.6 x 35.5 cm

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This is inscribed on the stretcher 'A Sketch of Gordal Cataract in Craven by S. Stringer 1772'. Gordale Scar in Yorkshire became a popular subject for artists from the early 19th century, most notably James Ward's Romantic masterpiece of 1812-14 in Tate Britain. Gordale Scar was

visited by many early tourists, and in 1807 William and Dorothy Wordsworth described it as 'terrific as the lair where young lions crouch'. Stringer's remarkably early and strongly romanticised view of 1772 depicts the major features of Gordale Scar – the waterfall emerging through a large hold in the rock and the central outcrop of rock, all contained between towering cliffs.

Samuel Stringer of Knutsford was a landscape painter who exhibited at Liverpool in 1774 and was employed by Josiah Wedgwood to design views to decorate his pottery. He was the son of Thomas Stringer, a painter of animals and sporting subjects, and his younger brother Daniel was a portrait painter.