This small-scale view of Venice was likely commissioned by a tourist visiting the city on the Grand Tour, which was a means for wealthy young men to visit the cultural hubs of continental Europe. The artist, Canaletto, had built his career through creating detailed depictions of Venice, paintings that greatly appealed to such tourists.

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Canaletto (Italian, 1697–1768), *Venice: Riva degli Schiavoni towards the East*, ca. 1760. Oil on canvas, 14 3/4 x 10 1/8 in. Bequest of John Ringling, 1936. SN187