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Carl Friedrich Deiker (1838-1892), The Lying Fox / - The Psyche Of The Fox -

1 200 EUR



Signature : Carl Friedrich Deiker (1838-1892)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Length : 29,5 cm

Height : 18 cm

Description

Carl Friedrich Deiker (1838 Wetzlar - 1892 Düsseldorf). Lying fox. Pencil drawing on brown paper, 18 × 29.5 cm (inside measurement), 31.5 x 43.5 cm (mount), signed and dated "Deiker [18]54" at lower right.

- a little bit stained, with a light water stain at lower right

- The psyche of the fox -

Carl Friedrich Deiker's consummate ability to depict animals is already evident in this early work. He brought a whole new psychological

Dealer

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dimension to animal painting, so that one could literally speak of animal portraits.

The naturalistic appearance of the fox alone makes it seem alive. Every strand of muscle, even every hair, is captured, which requires an intensive artistic study of animal anatomy and physiology. But the fox's real liveliness comes not from its natural appearance, but from its internal movement: Stretched out, it has been brought out of rest. It turns around and, with its ears pricked up, looks intently in the direction from which it has seen something. His mouth is slightly open and his pointed teeth are bared, as if he were growling. Tension gradually takes hold of his whole body. While the hind legs were still in a relaxed position, closely observed by Deiker, one front leg was already raised, ready to begin a rising movement. The fox seems so alarmed with all its senses that one gets the impression that, at any moment, its tail will move jerkily and the animal will jump up.

While wild animals have traditionally been portrayed as beasts or anthropomorphised, often for caricatural purposes, Deiker explores their inherent nature by attempting to capture their psychic impulses. The wild animal is neither bestial nor human, but a creature in its own right, valued by Deiker for its own sake. In this way, he brought the dignity of the animal into representation and raised animal painting to a whole new artistic level.

About the artist

Carl Friedrich Deiker was the son of the drawing teacher Christian Friedrich Deiker and the younger brother of the animal painter Johannes Deiker. In addition to the family art lessons, Christian Friedrich shared a studio with his brother Johannes at Braunfels Castle, Deiker attended the drawing academy in Hanau, and from 1858 he was a student at the Karlsruhe Art Academy, where he studied under the landscape

painter Johann Wilhelm Schirmer. Carl Friedrich Deiker was already in demand as an artist during his first year: Grand Duke Frederick I of Baden, Margrave Max of Baden and Grand Duke Michael of Russia bought hunting scenes by him. In 1859 he went on a study trip to the Reinhardswald. Just as the Barbizon School had rediscovered the landscape, Deiker opened up the forest for animal painting.

From 1861-64 Deiker had his own studio in Karlsruhe, then moved to Düsseldorf, where his brother Johannes followed four years later.

Deiker married a daughter of the landscape painter Karl Hilger and remained in Düsseldorf until his death.

In 1868 he finally achieved international fame with his painting 'Pursued Noble Deer' and was regarded as a virtuoso new founder of animal painting.

"Deiker brought for the first time a truly great artistic quality to animal painting [...]".

- Hans Vollmer

From 1870 he participated in the academic art exhibitions in Berlin, Dresden, Munich and Hanover. He was also very busy as an illustrator. He drew for the Gartenlaube, the Salon, the Universum, and produced many of the finely illustrated hunting and animal books of the period. He also worked as a printmaker, while his oil paintings circulated as reprints by Franz Dinger.

From 1865 to 1892 Deiker was a member of the artists' association Malkasten.

Carl Friedrich Deiker's life's work was honoured with a large posthumous memorial exhibition at the Düsseldorf Kunsthalle in 1892.

His son Carl Deiker, born in 1879, also became a painter.

Selection of art museums that own works by Carl Friedrich Deiker:

Hamburger Kunsthalle / Kunsthalle Karlsruhe /
Kunstmuseum Düsseldorf / Wallraff Richartz
Cologne.

Selected Bibliography

H. Schmidt: Johannes and Carl Friedrich Deiker.
A contribution to animal and hunting painting in
the 19th century, Wetzlar 1986.