



Elisabeth Warling - Boy Gathering Wood



1 550 EUR

Signature : Elisabeth Warling (1858-1915)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 43 cm.

Height : 64 cm.

Description

In this intimate and naturalistic painting, Elisabeth Warling captures a young boy gathering branches in a rustic landscape. Barefoot and simply dressed in rolled-up trousers, a white shirt, and a dark vest, the boy is shown in profile, concentrating on his task as a straw hat shades his face. The scene is rendered in a palette of earthy browns, greens, and muted grays, reflecting the damp forest floor and the overcast sky above. Warling's brushwork is both careful and lively, particularly in the depiction of the tangled branches and rough ground, creating a textured, tactile effect. The distant tree line and rustic wooden fence add depth, firmly situating the scene within the Swedish countryside. Painted around 1890, *Boy Gathering Wood* demonstrates Warling's skillful naturalism and her sensitivity to

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everyday life. Her choice of subject - a simple rural task - reveals an understated approach to narrative and an empathy for her subjects. Despite the modesty of the scene, the painting conveys a quiet emotional resonance. Warling's focus on simplicity, combined with a restrained yet expressive technique, places her alongside contemporaries who sought to depict rural realities with honesty rather than sentimentality.

Maria Elisabeth Warling (1858-1915) was a Swedish painter and draughtswoman born in Stockholm. She began her artistic education at the Technical School in Stockholm (1875-1877) and continued at the Royal Swedish Academy of Fine Arts (1877-1883). Following this, she received a scholarship that allowed her to study at the Académie Colarossi in Paris from 1885 to 1887, one of the few institutions at the time that accepted female students. Warling's artistic style gradually evolved beyond the naturalist conventions taught in academic settings. Her brushwork became broader and more expressive, favoring a painterly approach that has drawn comparisons to the French Impressionist Berthe Morisot. Her paintings often display a quiet intimacy and emotional subtlety, qualities that distinguish her work from the more formal and rigidly composed academic tradition. Despite her refined technique and clear artistic voice, Warling's name has remained on the periphery of art historical discourse. Several factors may have contributed to this marginalization. While her style was distinctive, it did not conform to prevailing artistic norms of the time, making her less visible in mainstream exhibitions and critical circles. Just as significantly, Warling was known for her introverted personality. According to her contemporary, Eva Bonnier, she found it difficult to engage in the kind of social and professional networks that often played a crucial role in an artist's success. Her reserved nature kept her at a distance from the academic camaraderie and the strategic self-promotion many of her peers relied

on. After returning from Paris, Warling faced the typical challenges experienced by many artists - especially women - at the time. The transition from the structured support of academic institutions to an independent professional life was difficult. She encountered financial hardship and personal struggles, yet remained deeply committed to her art. Despite these obstacles, Warling managed to make a living primarily through portraiture. While commissioned work might suggest creative compromise, her paintings reveal otherwise. Her style remained consistent - quiet, intimate, and emotionally resonant. She avoided theatricality and grandiosity, preferring subdued compositions that communicate with subtle depth. Elisabeth Warling's legacy is one of quiet determination. Although she never achieved widespread recognition during her lifetime, her work speaks with a gentle but enduring force. Her paintings reflect an artist who remained true to her vision, regardless of the constraints of her time. Today, as interest in women artists and under-recognized figures of the late 19th and early 20th centuries grows, Warling's contribution is being rediscovered and appreciated anew.

Artist: Elisabeth Warling
(1858-1915). Signed in the lower left corner. Medium: Oil on canvas. Condition: Very good condition. Dimensions: 64 x 43 cm. / 25 1/4 x 17 in. Frame: Unframed. Free Shipping to Canada, US, UK & France.