



Léon Frédéric (1856-1940) Seascape, Heyst, Oil On Canvas, Signed

1 450 EUR



Signature : Léon Frédéric (1856-1940)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 26.5

Height : 21

Description

Léon Frédéric (1856-1940) A Seascape, Heyst, signed at the lower right. Oil on canvas transferred on panel. 21 x 26.5 cm. Framed under glass : 38.5 x 45 cm. Certificate from the artist's son, Georges Frédéric, on the reverse. This seascape by Léon Frédéric is part of a series of landscapes inspired to the artsits by the shores of Heyst, near the Belgian coastal resort of Knokke. Although he found much inspiration in the rolling landscapes of the Ardennes, particularly in the area of Nafraiture, at the other end of the country, the North Sea offered him a completely different motif and an opportunity to explore another source of inspiration. Of particular interest is the similarity in inspiration and execution between this painting and the works of another famous Belgian artist from the same period: Léon

Dealer

Remi Fremiot

Old Masters paintings and drawings

Mobile : 0676497593

Metro Poissonnière

Paris 75010

Spilliaert (1881-1946). Spilliaert also frequently depicted the North Sea coast in his work. Frédéric must have been familiar with Spilliaert's work, as the two artists followed similar artistic paths, particularly with regard to the Symbolist movement. This artist's work may therefore have served as a source of inspiration for Frédéric, and this painting in particular seems to bear witness to that. Léon Frédéric was born on 26 August 1856 in Brussels and died on 25 January 1940 in Schaerbeek. The son of a prosperous jeweller, Léon Frédéric was apprenticed to the painter-decorator Charle-Albert in 1871, and attended evening classes at the Brussels Academy. In 1874, he worked in the private studio of Jean-François Portaels. The following year, he joined forces with a group of young painters to rent a studio where they could study live models. From 1876 to 1878, he prepared for the Prix de Rome, which he failed, but his father offered him a year's travel to Italy. From 1878 to 1879, he made his debut with the artistic group l'Essor, which brought together proponents of realism. In 1883, he was hailed as a promising painter with his painting *Les Marchands de craie*, a triptych combining modernism with the genius of the primitive masters, and in the 1890s he became one of the most popular painters in Belgium, cited alongside Constantin Meunier and Eugène Laermans. On 24 April 1929, King Albert I awarded Léon Frédéric - at the same time as James Ensor - the title of Baron. Some of his paintings took the form of esoteric allegories, such as *Intérieur d'atelier* (1882), in the Musée d'Ixelles. These works suffice to classify Léon Frédéric as one of the masters of the Belgian Symbolist movement. They foreshadow certain Surrealist themes, as shown by the right-hand side of the triptych *L'Eau, L'Eau dormante*. His large triptych, *Les Ages de l'Ouvrier*, exhibited at the Musée d'Orsay, is also very famous. But his smaller-format landscapes - including an impressive series of views of *Nafraiture* in the Belgian Ardennes and his views of dunes on the

Belgian coast - reveal a body of work that is just as bold, but more intimate in nature, that of a contemplative landscape lover. His works are held by the Musée d'Orsay, the Musées Royaux des Beaux Arts de Belgique and the Metropolitan Museum in New York, among others.