



Edmond Joseph De Praterre (1826-1888) - "a Donkey By The Sea"



4 800 EUR

Signature : Edmond Joseph de Praterre, Courtrai 1826 - 1888
Ixelles, Peintre belge, Signature : signé en bas à gauche « E de
Praterre »

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Width : 53 cm

Height : 70,5 cm

Depth : 5 cm

Description

Edmond Joseph de Praterre Courtrai 1826 - 1888
Ixelles Belgian Painter of Landscapes and Animal
Subjects 'A Donkey by the Sea' Signature: signed
lower left 'E de Praterre' Medium: oil on
panel Dimensions: image size 56 x 37,5 cm, frame
size 70,5 x 53 cm Biography: Edmond Joseph de
Praterre was born in Kortrijk (Courtrai) in 1826
and became one of the leading Belgian animal
and landscape painters of the nineteenth century.
Renowned for his masterful depictions of horses,
cattle, donkeys and rural life, he combined a keen
observation of nature with a remarkable
sensitivity to light and atmosphere. His paintings
occupy an important place within the tradition of
Belgian Realism and the Barbizon-inspired
landscape movement. De Praterre received his first
artistic training from his elder brother, the painter

Dealer

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Henri De Pratere, before studying at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kortrijk. His early talent was quickly recognised, earning him several prizes and gold medals. Initially trained in decorative arts, he soon devoted himself entirely to landscape and animal painting, becoming a pupil and follower of the celebrated animal painter Louis Robbe. From the 1850s onwards, De Pratere exhibited regularly at the major Belgian Salons and became a frequent participant in the Paris Salons, where his works attracted favourable attention from critics, including the writer Théophile Gautier. His subjects were often drawn from the countryside of Flanders, particularly the fertile pastures of the Veurne-Ambacht region, where he painted directly from nature. Horses, oxen, cattle and donkeys became his favourite motifs, rendered with remarkable accuracy and vitality. Contemporary critics praised the strength of his composition, his command of colour and the realism of his animal studies. An enthusiastic traveller, De Pratere visited France, Scotland, Italy and the Forest of Fontainebleau, broadening his artistic horizons while remaining deeply attached to the Flemish landscape. His mature works demonstrate an increasing concern for light, air and atmosphere, qualities that distinguish his finest paintings. Among his most celebrated works are *Shrimpers (Garnaalvissers)*, painted in Nieuwpoort in 1867 and now preserved in the collection of the Museum of Fine Arts Ghent, and *Cattle Market at the Brussels Abattoir* (1880), held by the Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium. His paintings are also represented in numerous Belgian public collections, including the Museum of Ixelles. De Pratere's legacy extends beyond his artistic production. Following his death in Ixelles in 1888, his sister Eugénie donated his extensive art collection and studio contents to the municipality of Ixelles. This remarkable bequest formed the foundation of the Museum of Ixelles, established in 1892 and today regarded as one of Belgium's most important museums of nineteenth- and twentieth-century

art. Few artists can claim such a direct role in the creation of a major public museum. Today, Edmond De Pratere is remembered as one of Belgium's foremost nineteenth-century animal painters. His works remain highly sought after for their technical excellence, their evocative portrayal of rural life and their enduring celebration of the Flemish countryside.