Sailboat At Sea By Moonlight / Edward F. D. Pritchard (1809-1905) / Oil On Canvas



680 EUR

Signature : EDWARD FRANCIS DREW PRITCHARD (1809-1905)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting

Description

EDWARD F. D. PRITCHARD (1809-1905) Ship at Night Oil on canvas, signed lower left71 x 46 without frame78 x 53 with frameon its original canvas and stretcherThis remarkable nocturnal seascape illustrates Edward F. D. Pritchard's mastery of the art of capturing maritime atmospheres. In the foreground, an imposing three-masted square-rigged ship sails across a choppy sea beneath a cloud-laden sky, bathed in diffuse moonlight that imbues the scene with a mysterious and romantic atmosphere. The composition relies on a subtle contrast between the ship's dark masses and the flashes of light that enliven the horizon and the water's surface. The eye is naturally drawn to the ship's navigation lights, whose glowing reflection extends vertically into the waves. This detail, both

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realistic and painterly, serves as the focal point of the work and lends the scene an almost cinematic presence. The carefully observed rigging evokes the large merchant sailing ships that still plied the oceans during the second half of the 19th century. Here, Pritchard demonstrates an excellent knowledge of the maritime world while emphasizing the evocative power of the subject. More than a simple portrait of a ship, the artist offers a poetic vision of nighttime navigation, where the vessel's solitude confronts the immensity of the sea and the sky.The quality of the treatment of light deserves special attention. The silvery reflections of the moon on the waves, the deep hues of the sky, and the colorful accents of the ship's lights reveal a painter particularly attuned to atmospheric phenomena. This exploration of light brings his work closer to the great tradition of 19th-century British marine painting. Edward Francis Drew Pritchard (Bristol, 1809-1905) was a British painter specializing in coastal landscapes and maritime subjects. Active throughout the 19th century, he developed a body of work devoted to ports, ships, coastal views, and atmospheric effects associated with the sea. His paintings demonstrate a solid knowledge of the maritime world and a particular attention to light. Today, his works are included in several British public collections.