Joseph Sacré (1810-?), Winter Landscape With Figures



2 800 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 61

Height : 51

Description

Joseph Sacré (1810-?)Winter Landscape with FiguresOil on canvas, 51 x 61 cm - framed, 63 x 73 cmSigned and dated lower right: Jos.Sacré 184...In the rosy light of late afternoon, Joseph Sacré paints a sky of purplish and golden clouds over a corner of the Belgian countryside gripped by frost. On the left stands an old house with yellowish walls and a snow-laden roof, from which long icicles dangle; beyond the stairs, the well is visible, and a little further down, a man in a red jacket walks toward it carrying two buckets to fill them--a daily gesture that anchors the scene in rural life. The dark planks, the peeling plaster, and the dim little windows speak of a modest dwelling, warmed only by the smoke rising gently from the chimney. In the center, the group gathers: a man sitting on a wicker sled hands a

Dealer

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pair of skates to a woman dressed in black, with a fur collar, who stands opposite him, while other figures in dark coats and hats look on. The red of a scarf and the ochre of a cloak are the warm accents in a palette dominated by whites and grays. On the right, in the foreground, a small, snow-covered boat lies now useless. In the middle ground, before the background featuring the edge of a forest and a typical windmill, a few skaters amuse themselves on the ice, tiny vibrant specks in the cold air. The artist gracefully alternates anecdotal detail with the atmospheric vastness of the sky, which occupies much of the canvas and casts soft reflections on the snow. The ice, dark and glossy in the foreground, hints at the fragility of the surface. Born in Ghent in 1810, Sacré is best known as a painter of genre scenes and winter landscapes animated by figures. His career is documented by works dating from 1836, the year of *Charity*, now in the Museum of Fine Arts in Ghent, through at least 1887, and includes domestic interiors, costumed figures, and snowy vistas, such as the winter landscapes from 1857 and 1887 that have appeared on the market.