

SA1008403

Christian Berthelsen, Village Landscape With Thatched Cottage & Storks - Antique Oil Painting

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1008403

Date of manufacture: 1900

Dimensions

Height = 49 cm (19.3")

Width = 63 cm (24.8")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

This charming 19th-century oil painting by Danish artist Christian Berthelsen (1839-1909) depicts a village scene with storks nesting atop a timber-framed dwelling. Is it simply a gentle portrayal of idyllic family life? Or does it allude to a sinister fairy tale by a well-known Danish author? Berthelsen was born on the small picturesque island of Føhr, where most families worked the land and lived in villages peppered with quaint thatched cottages. Amid these rural communities, children became familiar with various folk stories including those told so menacingly by the author Hans Christian Andersen. In 1839, the year Berthelsen was born, Andersen published 'Storkene', a typically macabre tale involving a family of storks. It begins: "On the last house in a little village the storks had built a nest, and the mother stork sat in it with her four young ones, who stretched out their necks and pointed their black beaks, which had not yet turned red like those of the parent birds. A little way off, on the edge of the roof, stood the father stork, quite upright and stiff; not liking to be quite idle, he drew up one leg, and stood on the other, so still that it seemed almost...

Seller Details

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