

SA1027907

Portrait of Three Trees,
Barbizon, ca 1865, Diaz de la
Pena circle French oil on Panel

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA1027907

Date of manufacture: 1860

Dimensions

Height = 16.5 cm (6.5")

Width = 24 cm (9.4")

Depth = 1 cm (0.4")

Description

An extremely beautiful oil study of three trees, bathed in sunlight. Dating from the 1860s, the work has a timeless quality and is stylistically so close to the work of Narcisse Diaz de la Pena (1807-1876) that it might be possible to attribute the painting to him. I much enjoyed an essay by Rachel Kemp about an eerily similar work by Diaz de la Pena in the Kemper Art Museum, which puts into context the Barbizon movement, of which Diaz de la Pena was a member. Below is an extract: "(...) Diaz de la Peña, known in his day as a first-rate colourist and a master of light, harnessed dramatic effects of color and light to simulate the sensations of walking through a dense forest (...) Wood Interior immerses viewers in what many understood to be a depiction of pristine nature, devoid of any sign of either man or modernization. The opportunity for momentary escape provided by such a painting would have been especially enticing to nineteenth-century urban dwellers desperate to connect with a natural world that seemed increasingly removed from their experience of life in the modern city. The Barbizon school, a loosely associated group of landscapists working between 1830 and 18...

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