

SA1200875

The bather and the artist, ca
1885, a bashful nude by Manet
student French oil on panel

Price

GBP 1,600

| USD \$2,161 | EUR 1,871

Item Reference: SA1200875

Date of manufacture: 1880

Dimensions

Height = 19 cm (7.5")

Width = 11 cm (4.3")

Depth = 1 cm (0.4")

Description

A captivating and playful oil on panel by the French artist Louis Dauvergne (1828-1899). This little gem of a painting depicts a spirited young bather preparing to snatch her clothes after a skinny dip, all while an elderly plein air artist sits blissfully unaware just yards away. The work is imbued with a wonderful sense of narrative poetry and light. Dauvergne's mastery is most evident in the rendering of the bather's skin tones, which glow with a pearlescent quality against the textured bark of the willow tree—a testament to his training under the great Thomas Couture. Louis Dauvergne was a figure of contradictions. The son of a landowner, he famously rejected his inheritance of the family farm to pursue a life of art in Paris. There, he joined the elite studio of Thomas Couture, where he studied alongside Puvis de Chavannes and Édouard Manet. Possessing a private income, Dauvergne was a "painter's painter" who worked primarily for his own pleasure. This financial independence allowed him a certain nonchalance; he painted with a freedom and lack of commercial pressure that many of his contemporaries envied. While critics of the time noted that with more "perseveran...

Seller Details

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