

JOHN BENNETT fine paintings

A Terrier by the base of a Tree
ARTHUR HENRY DAVIS

Sold



REF: 195846

Framed Height: 181.61 cm (71.5")

Framed Width: 259.08 cm (102")

Description

ARTHUR HENRY DAVIS English School Fl. 1871-1893 A Terrier by the base of a Tree Oil on canvas, signed and dated 91 45.5 x 76 cms 18 x 30 inches Overall framed size 71.5 x 102 cms 28 1/8 x 40 1/8 ins

Arthur H Davis was initially a London based painter residing in Cranbourne Street off Leicester Square before moving to Christchurch in Hampshire in the late 1870s. His main speciality was landscapes in the southern counties of England and in Hampshire, Dorset and Devon in particular but he also depicted animals, hunting scenes and the occasional still life.

His landscapes are typical of the Victorian age displaying a tight and most able technique and are skilfully composed with buildings reflected in water, the warm evening light on harvest stooks in a field or with a church spire glimpsed through trees and are imbued with a fresh vitality. He transferred the same ability to his other subject matter with packs of hounds running across the painting or the understanding of how a small terrier looks curled up asleep.

He exhibited one painting at the Royal Academy in 1872 - "A Peep at Saltash, Cornwall" - and twelve times at the Royal Society of British Artists in Suffolk Street. Titles of some of these paintings include: "Near Heron Court Farm, Christchurch, Hants", "A Lane at Marchwood, near Southampton", "A quiet corner near Chagford", "The Borrowdale Yews, Hamlet of Grange, near Keswick, Cumberland" and "Meal time" He also showed his work at the Royal Institute of Oil Painters in 1893/4 when he was resident in Bournemouth.

The occasional still life paintings tend to be of the more rustic type with vegetables and a jug on a plain wooden ledge or table. There was also an unusual small painting depicting stuffed songbirds in a glass dome of the type popular in Victorian England.

Examples of his work can be seen in the collections of the Russell Cotes Art Gallery and Museum and Hampshire County Council Museum, Winchester