



Luigi Loir
1845-1916

Preparations for the funfair
Oil on canvas / signed and dated 1895 lower right
Dimensions : 150 x 277 cm
Dimensions : 59.05 x 109.05 inch



Biography

Luigi Loir was a painter enamoured with the visual experience of Paris. After leaving the studio of his instructor Pastelot in 1870, Loir concentrated his oeuvre on scenes of the city. Although he painted views of Paris at all hours of the day, he excelled at painting at the margins of daylight, or when cloudy skies or misty rain create a cool atmosphere through which sparkle electric lights and sunny reflections.

Loir was born December 22, 1845 in Goritz, Austria and he died February 9, 1916 in Paris. He began his first formal art education in 1853 at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts of Parma. Ten years later he moved to Paris, where he enrolled to study with the mural painter Jean Amable Amedée Pastelot (1810-1870). Upon finishing his studies in 1865, Loir made his debut at the Paris Salon with Paysage a Villiers-sur Seine, for which he received high acclaim. Due to his studies with Pastelot, he also became a very popular ceiling and mural painter: one of Loir's first commissions was to paint the murals and ceilings at the Chateaux du Diable in 1866.

After 1870 Loir concentrated exclusively on painting views of Paris. In these works, Loir caught and expressed the many faces of Paris at all hours of the day. These displayed Loir's exceptional powers of observation and craftsmanship and it is with these that he ultimately made his reputation. In 1879 Loir was awarded the third class medal at the Salon. A second-class medal followed at the Salon of 1889, as well as a gold medal at the Exposition Universelle in the same year. Loir was inducted into the Legion of Honor in 1898.

Museums

Musée du Petit-Palais et Musée Carnavalet, Paris
Musée des Beaux-Arts, Bordeaux
Musée de Rouen
Musée Crozatier, Le Puy-en-Velay
Metropolitan Museum, New York
Galerie Tretyakov, Moscou...

Bibliography

E. Bénézit : Dictionnaire des peintres, sculpteurs, dessinateurs et graveurs.
G. Schurr : Dictionnaire des petits maîtres du XIXème.
Bellier de la Chavignerie et Auvray : Dictionnaire général des artistes de l' école française.
Noë Willer : Luigi Loir, peintre de la Belle Époque à la Publicité. Catalogue raisonné vol I