



Jean-Joseph Bellel
1816-1898

Orientalism Landscape
Oil on canvas signed and dated 1857 lower left
Dimensions : 27 x 46,5 cm
Dimensions : 10.63 x 18.11 inch



Dimensions with frame : 47 x 67 cm
Dimensions with frame : 18.50 x 26.38 inch

Biography

Son of an architect, Jean-Joseph Bellel studied painting from 1832 to 1835 in the studios of Pierre Justin Ouvrié, a landscape and cityscape artist.

The year 1836 saw his debut at the Salon and he would exhibit there regularly for the rest of his life. He entered the École des beaux-arts de Paris for further studies in 1845. For a time, he served as an Assistant Custodian at the Palais du Luxembourg.

He made numerous trips to Italy and Algeria; each followed up by paintings of local scenes. His first Orientalist works date from 1856. He also held showings in Vienna and London, where he was awarded several medals. In 1860, he created an album of twenty charcoal drawings, with text by his friend Théophile Gautier, that he offered to the General Council of the Vosges as a gift for Napoleon III. That same year, he was decorated with the Legion of Honor.

He received a large number of commissions from official sources. His "Arab Caravan" may be seen at the Palais de l'Élysée. The French Senate is in possession of a tapestry from the Gobelins Manufactory, bearing one of his designs. Two large panels, depicting the edge of the Marne in Champigny and a view of Arcueil were created for the Hôtel de ville de Paris, but were destroyed during the Paris Commune. Sketches have been preserved at the Musée Carnavalet.

Museums

Museum of Fine Arts, Chartres

Museum of Fine Arts, Reims