



Lucius Rossi

1823-1913

The beautiful sleeping lady

Oil on panel / signed et dated 1875 lower right

Dimensions : 34 x 26,5 cm

Dimensions : 13.39 x 10.24 inch

Biography

Lucius Rossi was an Italian portrait painter who has worked and lived in Paris. He first followed an artistic training in the Roma's Academy San Luca. Then he will be strongly influenced by the imagination and the emotion of the Romantic painters, and also charmed by the technique of the Spanish artist Maria Fortuny, settled in Roma between 1857 and 1859.

Although a few details are known about his life, we know that he leaved Italy to settle in Paris in 1867, and began to work as a designer for magazines. For example, he worked for the English magazine " The Graphic " and was close to the European high bourgeoisie. He realised some famous portraits, of whom the William Waldorf Astor family's one, the American diplomat and boss of press, now conserved in the Metropolitan Museum in NY (Brook Astor's donation). He was also close to the Count Tyszkiewicz, the great Polish collektor and sponsor.

His artwork, full of fragility, is characterized by his sense of details. Feminine figure is one of his recurrent theme. He represented woman in interior scenes usually personal or in the middle of a romantic conversation.

Very good colourist, the artist has a delicate and subtle touch where each detail is faithfully adapted on the canvas. In his paintings with women, one can feel an authentic involvement, almost a tenderness by Lucius Rossi to reveal radiant and realistic canvas.

In this intimate scene, the viewer is immersed in a young woman's apartment. As often, the artist took advantage of a spread out screen to create the impact of depth. Some items, of whom a book, are setting down the floor, suggesting that the woman get to sleep while she was reading.

Museums

Musées d'Orsay

Metropolitan Museum NY