ARY JAN
ART GALLERY



Théobald Chartran

1849-1907

"La jeune actrice"

Oil on panel / Signed top left and dated 1884

Dimensions : 27 x 21 cm

Dimensions : 10.63 x 8.27 inch

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Biography

A painter of history, genre scenes and portraits, Théobald Chartran was born in Besançon, France, in 1849. As a young child, he was already very skilled for drawing, and enjoyed doing caricatures of his teachers, in the Lycée Victor Hugo.

Aged 18, he entered the Beaux-Arts in Paris and studied with the artist Alexandre Cabanel. He started exhibiting academic paintings at the French Artists Salon in 1872.

In 1877, he received the Grand Prix de Rome for his work, " Prise de Rome par les Gaulois ", and a second medal at the Salon in 1881. He was awarded a Silver Medal at the Universal exhibition in 1889.

From 1881, he also exhibited his work at the Royal Academy and at the Crafton Galleries in London. He was soon recognized as a talented portraitist and became very fashionable among the circles of the high society . Working fast and with application, he received commissions from famous people, like the Princess of Wales, (future Queen Alexandra), from political or religious figures, (President Carnot, President Roosevelt, the Pope Leon XIII), as well as from famous actresses, Sarah Bernhardt and Rejane.

Chartran was also a talented draughtman and a decorator. He has painted murals in the Grand Stairs at the Sorbonne university, in the Arts Room in the Paris Townhouse and some fresques for the choir of the church in Champigny, for which he received a medal in 1877.

In 1904, he was elected a member at the Academy in Besançon. When he died in 1907, the city erected a bronze statue in remembrance of him.

Museums

Paris, Orsay Museum
Museums of Besançon, Caen, Reims, Carcassonne
London, the National Portrait Gallery
San Francisco, the Fine Arts Museum
Boston, the MFA
Pittsburg, the Carnegie Museum of Art
Harvard University Art Museum

Bibliography

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Schurr et Cabanne, Dictionnaire des petits maîtres de la peinture, 1820-1920, Ed. de l'Amateur, 1996
Forest Izard, " Heroines of the ModernStage ", New York, 1915