

KARL&FABER

Carl Spitzweg

Lot 114

Three Girls at the Edge of the Forest (Summertime)



Low estimate :	EUR 20,000.00
High estimate :	EUR 30,000.00
Buyers premium incl. VAT :	32 %

Artist

Carl Spitzweg

Additional description

Öl auf Zigarrenkistenholz. (Um 1865). Ca. 16 x 21 cm. Mit dem Monogramm "S im Rhombus" unten rechts (eingeritzt). Mit der Stempelsignatur recto.

Period

19. Jahrhundert

Technique

Gemälde

Provenance

Aus dem Nachlass des Künstlers; Hugo Helbing, München, Auktion, 21.10.1926, Los 197; Hugo Helbing, München, Auktion, 10.3.1931, Los 108; Neumeister, München, 23.10.1985, Los 867; Privatsammlung, Süddeutschland.

Characterised by quiet cheerfulness and subtle observation, a scene typical of Carl Spitzweg unfolds here, in which people and nature come together in close, intimate harmony. At the edge of a wooded valley bordered by dense copse, a small group of young women has gathered by a stream. As is so often the case with Spitzweg, the viewer becomes a silent witness to a private scene that appears to be unobserved. Yet the depiction remains free of any superficial sensationalism: with a keen sense of situations and moods, a glimpse is offered into a hidden world that oscillates between innocence, spontaneity and a subtle allure of the forbidden. The figures are deliberately integrated into the natural setting and appear less as individuals than as colourful accents within the landscape: the white of the blouses, the red of a skirt and the blue of an apron stand out effectively against the muted green and brown tones of the forest. Here, Spitzweg displays remarkable mastery in his painting. Vegetation, water and sky are rendered in a loose, fluid style; the light penetrates the dense canopy only in patches, directing the viewer's gaze specifically towards the group of figures in the foreground. The background opens up to a bright, atmospherically lit landscape, lending the picture additional depth. The dynamic interplay between the sheltered woodland and the opening expanse defines the composition's distinctive character. The result is a work that depicts not so much a specific event as it captures an atmospherically dense mood: the carefree, summery joy of being outdoors, the gentle murmur of the water, the shimmer of light in the foliage – and that ability, typical of Spitzweg, to draw the viewer into a discreet, fleeting scene.