

Henry Moret



1856-1913 | FRENCH

Les sabotiers devant une chaumière

M.S. Rau
FINE ART • ANTIQUES • JEWELS



At his best, French Post-Impressionist Henry Moret's paintings stand shoulder to shoulder with his iconic peer, Claude Monet. This remarkable Moret masterpiece, *Les sabotiers devant une chaumière* (*The Clog Makers in Front of a Cottage*), features a quaint cottage evocative of Monet's famed haystacks. Bursting with vibrant hues and lively brushwork, this painting perfectly embodies the bucolic serenity of rural France.

Renowned for capturing the essence of the French countryside, Henry Moret's finest works radiate beauty and emotion. Painted in 1902, this stunning landscape reflects Moret's time with the Pont-Aven School, an artists' colony celebrated for its bold use of pure color, flattened forms and peasant subjects. Though Moret never fully embraced Symbolism like his friend Paul Gauguin, he adopted a daring color palette that defined his career. This is beautifully evident in the vivid violet sky and the idyllic hay-roofed cottage featured in this masterpiece.

As captivating as it appears in the photos, Moret's palette is nothing short of mesmerizing in person. His expert study of color and light creates a breathtaking scene. The billowing smoke from the cottage's chimney appears almost lifelike, delicately weaving through the picturesque landscape. In the foreground, the figures of the clog makers seem at peace yet focused,

embodying the essence of an idealized pre-industrial agrarian life.

Henry Moret was born in Cherbourg in 1856, and he entered military service as a young man in 1875. It was during this period that Moret discovered the beauty of France's northern coasts, particularly those of Normandy and Brittany. After his tour ended, he embarked on his artistic career, completing his formal education at the *École Nationale des Beaux-Arts* under Jean-Leon Gérôme, and later, under Jean-Paul Laurens at the *Académie Julian*. He exhibited for the first time at the Paris Salon in 1880, submitting a landscape of the coast of Brittany.

In 1888, he established himself in Pont-Aven, a town whose center had become an artistic refuge for artists such as the great Paul Gauguin. Under Gauguin's influence, he briefly explored the concept of Symbolism in his works, but after Gauguin left Pont-Aven in 1891, Moret returned to his Impressionist roots. He formed a relationship with the famed dealer Durand-Ruel in 1895, and his career was officially launched. Today, his works are celebrated in prestigious institutions worldwide, including the Musée d'Orsay, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C.





Henry Moret

1856-1913 | French

Les sabotiers devant une chaumière, 1902

Signed and dated "H Moret 1902" (lower right)

Oil on canvas

Canvas: 23" high x 28" wide | 58.42 x 71.12 cm

Frame: 31" high x 36" wide x 1⁵/₈" deep | 78.74 x 91.44 x 4.13 cm

This work will be included in the forthcoming catalogue raisonné currently being prepared by Jean-Yves Rolland.

PROVENANCE

Private Collection

M.S. Rau, New Orleans



AUCTION COMPARABLES



Henry Moret
L'île de Groix, Morbihan
 oil on canvas
 Height 65.7 x Width 81.9 cm.
 Height 25.866 x Width 32.244 in.
 1903

23 June 2016 *over 8 years ago*
Christie's London
Impressionist & Modern Art Day Sale – [Lot 00280]
 est. 60,000 - 80,000 GBP **200,500** GBP ©
 est. 88,066 - 117,422 USD **294,290** USD ©
 ↑ 151% est



Henry Moret
Le Castel-Roch, Baie de Douarnenez
 oil on canvas
 Height 73 x Width 92 cm.
 Height 28.74 x Width 36.22 in.
 1910

06 November 2013 *about 11 years ago*
Christie's New York
Impressionist & Modern Art Day Sale – [Lot 00333]
 est. 80,000 - 120,000 USD **269,000** USD ©
 ↑ 124% est



Henry Moret
Le battage du blé au village
 oil on canvas
 Height 54 x Width 65 cm.
 Height 21.26 x Width 25.591 in.
 1894

28 February 2019 *almost 6 years ago*
Christie's London
Impressionist and Modern Art Day Sale – [Lot 00459]
 est. 80,000 - 120,000 GBP **200,000** GBP ©
 est. 106,213 - 159,320 USD **265,533** USD ©
 ↑ 67% est



Henry Moret
Bretonne à la haie, chemin creux à Riec, Finistère
 oil on canvas
 Height 54 x Width 65 cm.
 Height 21.26 x Width 25.591 in.
 1899

23 March 2016 *almost 9 years ago*
Millon & Associés
ART MODERNE & ECOLE DE PARIS – [Lot 00057]
 est. 100,000 - 150,000 EUR **225,000** EUR ©
 est. 111,756 - 167,635 USD **251,452** USD ©
 ↑ 50% est



Henry Moret
Douelan, bateaux de pêche
 oil on canvas
 Height 46 x Width 61 cm.
 Height 18.11 x Width 24.016 in.
 1903

30 May 2017 *over 7 years ago*
Artcurial
Impressionniste et Moderne I – [Lot 00012]
 est. 40,000 - 60,000 EUR **219,800** EUR ©
 est. 44,737 - 67,106 USD **245,833** USD ©
 ↑ 266% est



Henry Moret
Les Sableurs Pont-Aven
 oil on canvas
 Height 53.7 x Width 64.8 cm.
 Height 21.142 x Width 25.512 in.
 1906

10 April 2024 *9 months ago*
Christie's Paris
Art Impressionniste & Moderne – [Lot 00182]
 est. 80,000 - 120,000 EUR **214,200** EUR ©
 est. 86,843 - 130,264 USD **232,522** USD ©
 ↑ 79% est



Henry Moret | *Cliffs at Ouessant, Brittany*

1901

Medium: Oil on canvas

Dimensions: 25^{5/8} x 31^{7/8} inches | 65.08 x 80.96 cm



MFABoston

The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
Boston, MA, United States



Henry Moret | *View of the Bay with Sailboat*

Circa 1912

Medium: Oil on canvas

Dimensions: 21^{1/4} x 25^{5/8} inches | 54 x 65 cm



MUSEUM BARBERINI
POTSDAM

Museum Barberini Postdam
Postdam, Germany



Henry Moret | *Goulphar*

1895

Medium: Oil on canvas

Dimensions: 36¹/₄ x 28³/₄ inches | 92 x 73 cm



Musée d'Orsay
Paris, France



Henry Moret | *The Island of Raguenez, Brittany*

Circa 1890-95

Medium: Oil on canvas

Dimensions: 21^{1/4} x 25^{1/5} inches | 54 x 64.8 cm



National
Gallery of Art

National Gallery of Art
Washington, DC, United States



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