

JEAN-FRANÇOIS HEIM

FINE ARTS

JEAN-CHARLES-JOSEPH RÉMOND

Paris 1795 - id. 1875

French school

VIEW OF THE NIAGARA FALLS

Oil on canvas

H. 0,43 m; W. 0,64 m

Signed lower left: *Rémond*

DATE: ca. 1839

PROVENANCE: Private collection

RELATED WORKS:



Another version is in the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Rouen: *View of the Niagara Falls*, ca. 1839, oil on canvas, H. 0,65 m; W. 0,88 m, Gift of Madame Blouet in 1887.

Jean-Charles Joseph Rémond, was initially a pupil of Jean-Baptiste Regnault. From 1814, he studied under Jean-Victor Bertin with whom he received training as a painter of historical landscape. It is in this category that he won the Prix de Rome in 1821. Equipped with a confident technique inherited from his rigorous academic training, Rémond used the long period he spent in Italy (until 1826) to go outside to paint on multiple occasions, which led him from Naples to Tivoli and from Padua to Venice.

After his return to Paris, Rémond opened a studio where Théodore Rousseau and Eugène Fromentin counted among his pupils. The painter wrote several treatises presenting his principles on the composition of landscape. Although his convictions remained neoclassical, he was nonetheless a player in the development of *plein-air* painting. An indefatigable traveller, he brought hundreds of painted studies back from his trips around France, Italy and Switzerland.

During his time in Rome, he became friendly with his future father-in-law, the architect Guillaume Abel Blouet (1795-1853). In 1837, Blouet went to America and made studies of the Niagara Falls, from which Rémond made lithographs for a work published by Delpech in 1838. Like the painting in the Musée des Beaux-Arts, Rouen of the same subject, this view can be connected to the first plate entitled: *View of the Large Horseshow Falls, taken from Goat Island*. Rémond has replaced the goat in the print with two men including Blouet, to whom he gave the painting now in the Rouen museum.

Rémond has provided a naturalistic vision of this magnificent site using a bright and luminous palette. Our painting shows the elegance of his art and the fluidity of his painting.

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