



### **Cornelis Springer**

(Dutch, 25.05.1817 - 18.02.1891 )

#### **The 'Waag' on the Brink in Deventer**

Signed lower right C.Springer and dated 1888  
Watercolour on paper  
59 x 48.2 cm / 23.2 x 19 inch

#### **PROVENANCE**

Veiling Fred. Muller, Amsterdam, December 1, 1891, lot 116;  
Christie's Amsterdam, April 10, 1990, lot 150;  
Kunsthandel Piet Overduin, Giessenburg;  
Private collection, The Netherlands

#### **LITERATURE**

W. Laanstra, *Cornelis Springer, Geschilderde Steden*, Amsterdam 1994, image in colour, p. 94;  
Will be included in the catalogue raisonné as no. 88-A-1.

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

(*Cornelis Springer*)



Springer is considered the most renowned townview painter of the Dutch Romantic era. At the age of 17 he entered his first work in an exhibition, to be followed by about 120 other contributions to national and international art exhibitions.

His work consists of carefully executed town views in which the figures are dwarfed by the presence of imposing Gothic structures, with transparent skies, meticulously rendered masonry, and trees that deliberately break the rigid architectonic rhythm.

Springer was an avid traveller. Besides his extensive travels in The Netherlands, he visited Belgium, France and Germany. In 1844 he took a long trip along the Rhine, where he found the motives he was seeking: castles, imposing Gothic churches and ruins. He combined these motives into robust city portraits, built up according to his own taste. In these fantasy town views some buildings are still recognisable, but for the most part the compositions spring from the

artist's imagination.

Springer's paintings gained much attention, which led to him to earn a double silver and thereafter a gold medal in 1847. Many more awards would follow.

#### **LITERATURE**

H.C. de Bruijn jr., 'Cornelis Springer', in: Op den Uitkijk, September 1957. Pieter A. Scheen; Lexicon Nederlandse Beeldende Kunstenaars 1750-1950, The Hague 1970.

Willem Laanstra, H.C. de Bruijn, J.H.A. Ringeling, Cornelis Springer (1817-1891), Utrecht 1984.

Willem Laanstra, Cornelis Springer (1817-1891); Geschilderde Steden, Zaandam 1994.

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

2016 - Door het oog van Cornelis Springer. Een ontdekkingsstocht langs de steden rondom de Zuiderzee. Zuiderzeemuseum, Enkhuizen, The Netherlands.

Amsterdam, Tentoonstelling van werken van Levende Meesters (numerous works exhibited during his lifetime)

#### **COLLECTIONS**

The work of Cornelis Springer is represented in many museums including the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam the Museum Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam.