

Tavern Interior

Willem Linnig



1850's
Oil on Board
63 x 47.5cm

This wonderfully characterful painting is titled 'Tavern Interior' by the Belgian painter Willem Linnig and is from the early 19th century Dutch School.

Painted in oil on wood panel the crowded tavern interior depicts a typical Dutch scene with two men and a woman in the centre grouped around an oak table. On the floor is a stoneware jug and a repousse copper wine cooler on a stool by the table. The central man is holding a glass and his pipe and if you look to the far left of the painting you can just make out the silhouette of violinist entertaining the customers.

Perhaps the most dramatic and interesting part of this painting is how the artist's use of light illuminates the many interesting faces who are enjoying the conviviality of the moment.

Linnig was a Belgium artist who modernised the style and subject matter of 17th century paintings. Artists of this time specialised in subjects such as flower compositions, still life and interior scenes but his picture was painted in the mid 1800's when the depiction of everyday life was very popular.