19th century English portrait of a Bay Hunter in a stable

Albert Clark

$4,500

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REF: 2365

Height: 60.94 cm (24")

Width: 73.63 cm (29")

Description

Albert Clark

Portrait of a Bay Horse in a Stable
Circa 1890

Oil on canvas

Signed lower right

Original English oak frame

A finely executed late Victorian equestrian portrait by the British sporting artist Albert Clark, depicting a handsome bay horse standing within the quiet surroundings of a stable interior. Painted with considerable skill and sensitivity, the work belongs to the rich tradition of nineteenth-century British horse portraiture, a genre that celebrated the beauty, breeding, and importance of the horse in Victorian sporting and rural life.

The horse is presented in elegant profile upon a bed of golden straw, its athletic form carefully observed and confidently rendered. Clark demonstrates a keen understanding of equine anatomy, capturing both the strength and refinement of the animal through subtle modelling and rich tonal variations within the glossy bay coat. The composition possesses a calm dignity, allowing the horse's quality and character to take centre stage.

The stable interior is painted with pleasing simplicity. Soft natural light enters from the left, illuminating the straw-covered floor and creating a warm, atmospheric setting. A folded stable rug rests nearby, while the restrained background provides an intimate glimpse into the daily world of the Victorian stable. Such details lend the painting both authenticity and charm, reflecting the close relationship between owner and horse during the period.

Albert Clark was among the accomplished sporting painters working in Britain during the late nineteenth century. His works demonstrate a particular appreciation for horses, combining accurate draughtsmanship with a sympathetic portrayal of his subjects. Paintings of this nature were often commissioned to commemorate valued hunters, carriage horses, and racehorses, preserving their likeness for future generations.

Presented in its original English oak frame, this attractive work combines decorative appeal with historical interest and represents a fine example of traditional British sporting art. It will appeal equally to collectors of equestrian paintings, sporting subjects, and Victorian country house pictures.

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