

OIL PAINTING "WASSERSPIEGEL" RUDOLF QUITTNER CA. 1903

Oil painting, "Wasserspiegel", Rudolf Quittner, ca. 1903, signed

Dimensions	135 × 115 cm

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Born in 1872, Impressionist Rudolf Quittner was an Austrian landscape and genre painter who was a virtuoso at capturing the effects of air and light on canvas. He first studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna and later became a student at the Académie Julian in Paris, where he focused intensively on landscape painting. Quittner was a student of Camille Pissarro and Alfred Sisley and was not only inspired by Claude Monet, but also promoted by him. He traveled throughout almost all of Europe, the Orient, and North America for study purposes and, beginning in 1901, lived in Paris during the summer and spent his winters in Vienna.

Rudolf Quittner exhibited at the Venice Biennale, the Vienna Künstlerhaus, and the most important art fairs of his time in Paris, Berlin, Munich, Düsseldorf, and Dresden. His paintings were positively received by art critics and journalists of his time, and his works are now on display in museums such as the Belvedere and the Vienna Museum.

Quittner's oil painting “Wasserspiegel” (Water Mirror) depicts a tranquil, autumnal lakeside landscape in which a dark, reflective pond forms the central motif. The water surface occupies most of the picture space and reflects the surrounding trees in calm, soft color gradients. The light refracts subtly on the surface, reinforcing the melancholic, almost meditative mood of the work. On the right, two light, slender tree trunks emerge from the darkness of the forest edge, while denser, colourful autumn foliage dominates the left and background of the picture. A striking poplar tree, struck by light, rises in the distance, bringing vertical movement to the otherwise horizontally structured composition.

Quittner masterfully captures the silence and depth of a motionless moment in nature. The fine, detailed painting style and muted color scheme lend the picture an atmospheric density that invites contemplation.





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