

Romanticism in seascape painting by jules dupre essay



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

This paper is aimed at discussing the painting *Seascape* by Jules Dupre. In particular, it is important to examine the stylistic peculiarities of this artwork and the way in which it reflects the cultural trends that emerged in the nineteenth century. It should be mentioned that Jules Dupre could adopt different methods and techniques while creating his paintings. Yet, the picture, which has been selected for this assignment, is a good example of Romanticism. In this case, much attention should be paid to the way in which the author depicts the confrontation between an individual and nature.

This issue is a recurrent theme in many Romantic paintings that could be created at the beginning of the nineteenth century. To some degree, this author could be inspired by this motif. Furthermore, it is possible to speak about the symbolism of this picture because the storm depicted by the author can be regarded as a metaphor for emotional turmoil. Apart from that, it is important to remember about the greater realism of this painting. To some degree, this quality is also an attribute of Romanticism. Overall, these characteristics are used to identify the artistic movement which this painting represents. These are the main arguments that can be advanced.

It should be noted that that the representatives of Romanticism placed emphasis on the irrationality of human behavior which could often be completely unpredictable. In turn, they tried to depict individuals who were ready to take courageous steps even though they did not have to act in this way. As a rule, they did not want to depict nature in an orderly manner. They laid stress on the idea that the environment could not be easily subdued by a human being. Additionally, they often attempted to produce a strong

impression on the viewers. In many cases, this goal could be achieved by confronting a person with untamed nature.

On the whole, it is possible to say that the painting is a good example of Romanticism. In particular, Jules Dupre depicts the way in which the storm can affect a person and make him/her vulnerable. By looking at the small ship, one can assume that it is about to turn upside down. Moreover, there is practically nothing that can protect people in this ship. This is one of the characteristics that can be distinguished. This issue was explored by other Romantic painters who worked at the beginning of the nineteenth century. For example, one can speak about *The Shipwreck* by William Turner. This artwork has been emulated by many painters who represented Romanticism. One can conjecture that Jules Dupre could also be inspired by this painting. Yet, it is only a conjecture that cannot be fully verified.

Apart from that, it is important to mention that Romantic painters emphasized the importance of danger as one of the key themes. In many cases, they tended to depict people who were ready to confront forces which could be beyond their control. To a great extent, such individuals could be regarded as the role models for other people. In turn, the sailors in the ship can also risk their lives. Thus, one can say that the themes explored by Jules Dupre are typical of Romantic painting. This is one of the details that can be distinguished, and it can accurately attract the attention of a person who is familiar with Romanticism.

Furthermore, one should keep in mind that Romantic painting was supposed to reflect the inner world of a person and his/her emotional turmoil. By

focusing on nature, they could create the images that could be interpreted in different ways. To some degree, Jules Dupre's painting can also symbolize the inner emotional struggle. Thus, the symbolism of this picture is another attribute that should not be disregarded since it is important for understanding this work of art. It should be noted that Romantic painters laid stress on the psychological struggle of an individual.

Additionally, it is important to mention that Romantic artists emphasized the limitations of human perception. Jules Dupre also throws light on this issue. In particular, one can speak about patches of light reflected in the seawater. Thus, this detail can produce a soothing impression on the reader. In contrast, one can also notice that waves are gradually rising and one can think about eminent danger that may soon turn into a natural disaster. Therefore, one can say that the impending storm can eventually imperil the lives of sailors. This symbolism is also important for the discussion of this artwork because Romantic painters relied on the images of nature as tools for illustrating the experiences of a person.

Furthermore, it is important to mention that Romantic artists tended to depict nature in a more realistic manner. They did not want to create idyllic images that could produce a soothing impression on the viewers. In many cases, they tried to depart from this tradition. In turn, Jules Dupre uses very rich palette in order to depict the rough sea. While looking at the waves, a viewer may think that they are quite real.

This is another technique that could be adopted by many Romantic painters who rejected the principles of classicism. Admittedly, this painting

incorporates the elements of other styles. For instance, one can speak about the influence of impressionism which was also popular at the time when Jules Dupre created this artwork. Nevertheless, Jules Dupre emphasizes the dramatic moment during which a person can risk his/her life, and this is a distinct attribute of many Romantic paintings.

One can argue that this painting exemplifies the techniques used by Jules Dupre. In particular, this artist could create powerful images that could produce a strong impression on the viewers. Moreover, he could depict nature in a very realistic manner. To some degree, this artist was inspired by Romantic paintings which were very popular in the nineteenth century. This is one of the points that can be made.

On the whole, this discussion indicates that Jules Dupre's picture *Seascape* is a great example of Romantic art. In particular, the painting depicts the conflict between a person and nature which is completely beyond out of human control. Moreover, the author lays stress on the authentic description of nature which can be viewed as an uncontrollable entity. It is possible to say that this painting produces a strong impression on the viewer because the author describes the moment when an individual confronts the dangerous forces of nature. Thus, one can feel empathy for the sailors who were imperiled by the rough sea. These are some of the details that can be singled out.