

HOLGER PETER SVANE LÜBBERS

COPENHAGEN 1850 – COPENHAGEN 1931

Holger Lübbers was a grocer's son from Århus, where he started his training. However, he went to Copenhagen to study at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and was a student there from 1879 to 1882. At the same time he trained on his own as a marine painter. He exhibited at Charlottenborg from 1878 and in 1881 won the Neuhausen Prize. His marine paintings are often detailed, with large numbers of ships off familiar shore localities. He often portrayed the northern part of the Sound off Humlebæk and Hellebæk, frequently with Kronborg Castle as the background to paintings of the heavily used waters between Elsinore and Helsingborg. The busy harbor and roads of Copenhagen were likewise among his favorite motifs. In addition, Lübbers painted ship portraits, for instance one of the frigate Jylland. He also painted in western Jutland and southern Italy and in a few paintings introduced a shore with figures. Lübbers particularly distinguished himself with a number of vivid portrayals of the sea in which the weather plays a crucial role. As marine painters have the primary task of depicting ships and the sea, they have the privilege of being able to paint independently of general developments and fashions in painting.

E.F.

LITERATURE: Hanne Poulsen in *Weilbach*, vol. 5, Copenhagen 1996.