



PAIR 19TH CENTURY EUROPEAN TOWNSCAPE OIL PAINTINGS BY H. SCHAFER

\$3,800

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Rich in architectural detail and Old World atmosphere, this pair of antique Continental townscape paintings is by British Victorian painter Henry Thomas Schafer (1854–1915). Crafted in Europe during the 1870s, each oil on canvas is signed “H. Schafer” at the lower right and dated, one 1878 and the companion apparently 1874.

One composition depicts an imposing Gothic cathedral and adjoining church buildings overlooking a lively public square populated with townspeople. Its companion portrays a narrow medieval street lined with timber-framed houses, steeply pitched roofs, market stalls, and figures gathered beneath a soaring cathedral tower. Softly illuminated skies and a restrained palette of warm earth tones, pale blue, and muted lavender lend both scenes a romantic, atmospheric quality.

Henry Thomas Schafer was a British painter best known for finely detailed views of historic European towns, Gothic cathedrals, church interiors, and picturesque medieval streets. His paintings are admired for their careful architectural observation, luminous skies, and animated groups of figures, which bring a sense of everyday life to his historic settings.

The paintings are presented in matching antique giltwood and composition frames embellished with scrolling foliage, floral ornamentation, and pierced Rococo-style corners. Both canvases have been professionally relined and retain P. Polak Fine Art Dealers labels from King Street, St. James's, London, on the reverse.

The paintings are in excellent condition commensurate with age and use. Both canvases have been relined; the antique frames retain beautiful gilt finish.

Dimensions: 15.75" W x 20" H each.