

## PRESS RELEASE

BRAFA 2023

## GUSTAVE DE SMET: IMPRESSIONISM, SYMBOLISM, EXPRESSIONISM

For over 55 years, Galerie Oscar De Vos has built a tradition of prestigious exhibitions on **Modern Belgian Art**, with an emphasis on the art of **The Latem School**. Artists such as George Minne, Valerius De Saedeleer, Gustave Van de Woestyne, Emile Claus, Albert Servaes, Constant Permeke, Gust. De Smet, Frits Van den Berghe and Hubert Malfait enjoy the appreciation of a large audience throughout museum exhibitions, publications in Belgium and abroad. Each of these artists loved the **nature and atmosphere of Sint-Martens-Latem**. There they created their works spontaneously and interacted with the other artists who resided in the village.

From the 15<sup>th</sup> century on, Flemish art flourished, gradually becoming distinct from the painting of the rest of the Low Countries. The region of Flanders has long been an area rich in art. On the outskirts of Ghent, along the river Lys, artists relocated to the village of Sint-Martens-Latem. In Flanders, artists converged on Latem because of its beauty. In this pastoral environment were born a great many attractive works that could not have been originated in any other village or city.

### Collection BRAFA 2023

For the occasion of BRAFA 2023 we are proud to present two important paintings by **Gustave De Smet** (1877-1943), both a provenance from private collections, **fresh to the art market**.

The first painting is a **key work from 1910: Lady by the pond**. This is the first painting with Symbolist influences of the artist's oeuvre.

The second painting, **Couple in front of the door**, was created in 1923 and is one of the **most mature examples** of De Smet's style of Flemish expressionism.

## HIGHLIGHT GUSTAVE DE SMET – BRAFA 2023

### Fresh on the art market – Early key work

**Gustave DE SMET** (1877-1943)

*Lady at the pont* | 1910

Oil on canvas | 127 x 70 cm

Signed and dated lower right: Gustave De Smet / 1910





## HIGHLIGHT GUSTAVE DE SMET – BRAFA 2023

Fresh and very rare on the art market – Exceptional quality

**Gustave DE SMET** (1877-1943)

*Couple in front of the door* | 1923

Oil on canvas | 56 x 69 cm

Signed lower right: Gust. De Smet

Provenance:

René Guiette, Antwerp

Marcel Mabille, Brussels

