

Laying a Cable near Mühlheim am Rhein (1880)

Abstract

Conjuring up parallels with Ford Madox Brown's *Work* (1852–63) and Adolph Menzel's *Piazza d'Erbe in Verona* (1884), this panorama by Christian Sell (1831–83) portrays divisions of class, occupation, and generation while bringing together the worlds of labor and everyday life. A strong compositional diagonal draws the viewer's eye towards the upper-middle-class overseers who stand stiffly near the center of the image.

Source



Source: Christian Sell, *Kabellegung bei Mühlheim am Rhein* [*Laying a Cable near Mühlheim am Rhein*] (1880). Oil painting.

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