



# Rosa Bonheur

**Armelle Fémelat**

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- An elegant and documented book, loyal to the legacy of Cercle d'Art
- Features 60 to 70 of the artist's iconic pieces, accompanied by clear and concise text that sheds light on the artist's specific contribution to art history
- A concise biography and introductory notes that provide structure to the volume, making for an enjoyable and enlightening read
- Texts written by a renowned specialist in art history

As a celebrated and accomplished artist of the 19th century, Rosa Bonheur succeeded in elevating animal painting to the status of art. Defying the social conventions of her time, she became the first female artist to receive the Legion of Honour, making her work a symbol of independence and freedom. Her realistic animal depictions and naturalistic style established her as a pioneer of her era. Largely forgotten after her death, her work, in this book, is being brought back into the spotlight by Armelle Fémelat, art historian, journalist, and specialist in the Italian Renaissance and animal studies. This book offers a precise and attentive reading of the artist's work, allowing readers to appreciate the uniqueness of both her art and her life.

**Armelle Fémelat** is a French art historian specialising in Italian Renaissance art and the representation of animals in art history. Her work focuses particularly on horse iconography, animal portraiture, and the relationship between art, power, and representations of living beings. She also trained in museology at the École du Louvre. Alongside her academic research, Armelle Fémelat has written several popular art books devoted to major figures in art history, including Rosa Bonheur, Paul Gauguin, Leonardo da Vinci, and Giuseppe Arcimboldo.