

Henri Rousseau: The Story of a Painter



Henri Rousseau was a French painter. He was born on May 21, 1844. Henri lived in Laval, a town in France. He is famous for his paintings of jungles, animals, and dreams. His life story is very interesting.

When Henri was a child, his family was poor. He went to school, but he also worked to help his family. Henri had many jobs before he became a painter. He worked as a toll collector, collecting money on roads and bridges. People called him "Le Douanier," which means "the customs officer."

Henri started painting when he was 40 years old. He did not go to art school. He learned to paint by visiting museums and looking at art. He practiced a lot and never gave up. Some people laughed at his paintings, but Henri loved painting and kept doing it.

Henri's paintings are special because they look like dreams. He painted big green jungles with strange plants and animals. Even though Henri never went to a jungle, he used books and the zoo to imagine these magical places. His most famous painting is "The Dream," which shows a woman lying on a sofa in a jungle full of animals and plants.

Not everyone liked Henri's art. Some people thought it was funny or strange. But Henri believed in his work and continued to paint. Later, other artists and people started to see the beauty and creativity in his paintings. They saw that Henri had a special way of seeing the world.

Henri Rousseau died on September 2, 1910. Today, he is remembered as a great artist who followed his dreams and never gave up. His paintings are in museums all over the world, and people still love his unique and imaginative art.

Henri's story teaches us to follow our dreams, no matter what others say. With hard work and passion, we can do great things. Henri Rousseau will always be remembered for his wonderful paintings and his amazing journey as an artist.