



JITSKE SCHOLS

Chemistry, 2023
FOOTEPRINT

Acrylics on canvas
120 x 100 cm

€3,900

Location: artist studio, Amsterdam

DESCRIPTION/NOTES

In 1840 Elisha and Eunice met. John Perlin who wrote a (yet unpublished) biography about Eunice Foote writes: “At first it was her striking looks that caught his eye. But as they chatted, Elisha and Eunice discovered they shared much in common.”

By 1841 they married at the First Congregational Church of East Bloomfield and they settled in Seneca Falls. Elisha turned out to be an understanding partner who always supported Eunice. For example he stood up for women's rights, even though this could have an unfavorable outcome for him in his position as district attorney and later as mayor of Seneca Falls.

ABOUT EUNICE NEWTON FOOTE (1819 - 1888)

Women have been making significant contributions to science for centuries and receiving little to no credit for their work. Project “Footprint” is inspired by the life of Eunice Foote (1819-1888) who discovered the heat-absorbing property of carbon dioxide and water vapor and she described and theorized the gradual warming of the Earth's atmosphere in 1856 (!). She was the first to demonstrate what today we call the greenhouse effect.

Three years later, the well-known Irish physicist John Tyndall published similar results demonstrating the greenhouse effects of certain gases, including carbonic acid.

Presently, Tyndall's work is widely accepted as the foundation of modern climate science, while Foote's remains in obscurity. The reason? Women were practically excluded from the world of science in the name of their supposed ‘natural inferiority’.

Viewings, reservations or purchase:

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