



Alfred Smith (1854-1936)



Price : 1150 €

Signature : Alfred Smith (1854-1936)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Fusain

Length: 53

Height : 43

<https://www.proantic.comdisplay.php?id=561755>

Description

Superb and rare charcoal drawing by Alfred Smith representing the Creuse valley in Crozant in 1927, signed, dated and dedicated to Mr ServiÃre in the lower right. format without frame 43x53cm at sight. It is therefore a very interesting drawing by Alfred Smith dating from his Creusoise period, here 1927, that is to say his period of maturity; indeed, you will notice the very great technical mastery of this work, entirely made in charcoal on the motif, the power is obvious, the nuances made in one color are striking, a real little masterpiece by the artist! At that time Alfred Smith simplified his line more and more, by painting or drawing by masses and by using bright colors in the manner of wild animals with a light Cubist accent, which is very far from his first works, which were classic then

Dealer

Galerie Laurent Goudard

Tableaux 19^{ème} et Modernes, Spécialiste de l'Ecole de Crozant

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Impressionists. Because Alfred Smith is even better known as an impressionist painter than a post-impressionist and even as a representative of the Crozant school, we often compare his works before 1900 with those of Claude Monet.

André Alfred Smith of Strasbourg was born in Bordeaux on July 30, 1854, his father is Welsh, naturalized French, and his mother is the daughter of the notary of Saint-Ciers-sur-Gironde. In 1869 his father abandoned the family home and left to make a fortune in the United States. So at the age of 15, Alfred and his older brother, Emmanuel find themselves breadwinners. Alfred works in a bank as a stockbroker, but he wants to become an artist and spends all his free time painting. In 1877 he made the first exhibition of his paintings at the Salon of the society of friends of the arts of Bordeaux, whose catalog indicates that his master is Hippolyte Pradelles. He remained faithful to this show and exhibited at least one painting each year, until his death in 1936. The painter Alfred Roll would notice this and help him promote his artistic work. The two men became friends and Alfred Smith was Roll's executor after his death in 1919. In 1880 Smith participated in the Paris Salon, obtaining the honorable mention and frequented the workshop of Léonce Chabry. He also became a professor at the School of Fine Arts in Bordeaux. In 1883, his canvas *Le Quai de Bacalan, Le Soir* was exhibited at the Paris Salon and he entered Amédée Baudit's workshop. In the years 1884-1890 Smith began to be recognized. He received medals at the salons of Versailles, Nice, French artists, universal exhibition in Paris etc. It was in 1886 that he could quit his job, his painting allowing him to live. In 1888, he obtained an award at the Paris Salon. The same year, he painted the *Place de la Concorde Sous La Pluie (L'averse)* and in 1889, he obtained a bronze medal at the Paris Salon. He obtained a bronze medal at the Universal Exhibition of 1900 in Paris. In 1894, he was appointed knight of the Legion of Honor. On December 7, 1899, Alfred Smith married

Catherine Philippine Poix in Lyon and in 1901 the couple moved to Paris. In 1912, thanks to his friends Paul Madeline and Eugène Alluaud, Alfred Smith discovered the Creuse valley. He is captivated by the landscapes; his style changes again and evolves towards fauvism and he continues to paint around Crozant until his death. His wife Catherine dies in September 1935, then Alfred Smith dies on November 3, 1936. He is buried in Lyon. This drawing is in good condition, I just point out a few small spots and a tiny little hole, but nothing serious, not detracting from the work; delivered in its original wooden stick, I will simply change the marie-louise. guaranteed authentic