



PROANTIC
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Paris 1920s / Grenelle Bridge / Fm Salvat (1892-1976) / Oil

460 EUR

Signature : FRANÇOIS MARTIN SALVAT (1892-1976)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting on wood



Description

This painting by François Salvat, depicting the Pont de Grenelle in Paris in the 1920s, offers both an artistic and historical vision. It shows the Seine still untouched by industrialization, with boats, a crane and a few workers, testifying to a more modest artisanal activity than today.

25 x 33.5 without frame

46 x 57 with frame

Signed lower right

An important element is the Statue of Liberty, located on the Île aux Cygnes, inaugurated on July 4, 1889 to symbolize Franco-American friendship. The presence of this replica reinforces the historical dimension of the painting, because it stands in a landscape in full transformation. The

Dealer

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Seine is calm, the banks almost deserted, contrasting with the urbanization that will mark this district in the following decades. On an artistic level, Salvat uses soft colors and light touches that capture a peaceful atmosphere, far from the industrial effervescence to come. This painting therefore documents a key moment in the history of Paris, just before its transformation into a modern metropolis, while highlighting a corner of the city that was still preserved, marked by a simplicity that has now disappeared.

Salvat entered the Académie Julian in 1911 and became a student of Fernand Cormon. In 1925, he was hired by the Bernard Grasset publishing house and, as assistant to Maximilien Vox, later became artistic director of this publishing house. From 1935 to 1943, he lived in Montparnasse, at 41, rue Lecourbe. At the end of 1944, he became artistic advisor to the Éditions de la Table ronde. He collaborated with various periodicals such as *Le Bon Plaisir*, *les Cahiers libres*, *La Revue française*, *À Contre-courant*, *Nouvel Âge*, *Panorama*, *Caractère*, *Visages du Monde*, *La Table ronde*, *Maintenant*, *Il dramma*, *La France graphique*... A painter, Salvat produced numerous watercolours, landscapes inspired by his travels in Greece and Italy, mainly in Rome and Venice. A few watercolours also show us his stays in Paris and the French provinces. His watercolours brilliantly work the line and the sense of foreshortening. This aspect of his work is undoubtedly the most original. His small watercolour representing the Transverberation of Saint Theresa after Bernini, sketched in the church of Santa Maria della Vittoria in Rome, is a fine example. There are also a few oils, including *Prats-de-Mollo* (1932), kept at the Centre national d'art et de culture Georges-Pompidou. An oil on canvas, *Terrasse des Tuileries*, dating from before 1957, is in the Museum of Fine Arts in Dijon. The National Library of France also holds 200 sketches of actors made on the spot by the artist. He also produced numerous woodcuts and some

lithographs intended to illustrate books. An
essayist, he published *Voir Venise et la revoir* in
1973 at La Table ronde, with a preface by Paul
Morand.