PROANTIC
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Louis Niel - Varages - Marseille: Polychrome Earthenware Dish Decorated With Fish



1 890 EUR

Signature : Louis Niel (1815-1888)

Period : 19th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Ceramic

Diameter : 30 cm.

Description

A potter as well as a politician and statesman, he served as mayor of Varages, his birthplace, holding office until 1876, despite having lived in Marseille since 1856. He worked tirelessly to revive ceramic production in the region.Varages, a village in the Upper Var, is nestled among wooded hills shaped by complex geological formations that reveal deposits of clay and sand. Naturally suited to pottery, the village became a center of earthenware production as early as 1695. In the aftermath of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, only five factories remained in operation. Serving as mayor for thirty years, Louis Niel played a pivotal role in sustaining the local economy by improving transport, strengthening marketing networks, and promoting fine earthenware. The arrival of the southern

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railway around 1890 provided a renewed impetus to the village's pottery industry.