



**PROANTIC**  
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

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## George Barbier - Modernized Mythology, A Mermaid Between Two Waters - 1917 - Drawing



1 000 EUR

Signature : George BARBIER (1882-1932)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Paper

Width : 11 cm.

Height : 28 cm.

### Description

September 1917. India ink and purple pencil. 28 x 11 cm. Signed on the back. Published in *La Vie Parisienne* on September 22, 1917, this drawing has retained its small vignette at the bottom of the page. It displays Barbier's characteristic humor and refined style. Opposite it was another drawing entitled: *AUTUMN DEITIES: A Faun Between Two Wines*. Born in Nantes in 1882, George Barbier was one of the most refined illustrators of the Art Deco period. Likely trained at the Académie Julian, he established himself as a master of fashion illustration and graphic elegance as early as 1911. A contributor to prestigious magazines such as *La Gazette du Bon Ton* and *Vogue*, Barbier created exquisitely delicate illustrations that blended the influence of 18th-century miniatures, Japanese prints, and

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modern theater. He portrayed the contemporary woman with grace and sophistication, in a world of stylized luxury and precious colors. A versatile artist, he also designed sets and costumes for the theater, the Ballets Russes, and film, sharing with his contemporaries like Paul Poiret a taste for exoticism and decorative refinement. Dying prematurely in 1932, Barbier left behind a body of work emblematic of the Art Deco aesthetic--an art of line, rhythm, and elegance--now rediscovered as a symbol of the Roaring Twenties.