



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Edith Piaf / Portrait Circa 1947 / Raymond Voinquel (1912-1985) / Vintage Silver Gelatin Print



350 EUR

Signature : RAYMOND VOINQUEL (1912-1985)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Paper

Description

Édith Piaf Portrait by Raymond Voinquel, circa 1947. This print is an original vintage photographic portrait of Édith Piaf, an absolute icon of French song and a cultural figure of the 20th century. Taken around 1947 by Raymond Voinquel (1912-1985), a leading photographer in the entertainment world and the author of some of Piaf's most famous portraits, this photograph is among the most emblematic images of the artist at the height of her career. The photograph is distinguished by its sculptural lighting, typical of Voinquel's style, which magnifies her facial features and gives Piaf a presence that is at once serious, introspective, and intensely poetic. Her slightly raised gaze, meditative expression, and soft modeling lend this portrait an almost timeless quality, poised between classicism and

Dealer

ARTYGEORGES

Peinture ancienne & moderne

Tel : 0471689602

Mobile : 0674559787

Montclard

Anglards-de-Salers 15380

modernity. This is a vintage silver gelatin print on card stock, bearing the photographer's credit within the image, a key element attesting to its authenticity and original promotional use. These prints, produced for the press, record labels, or official distribution, are now highly sought-after by collectors of photography, film, and music. Given the print's date (circa 1947), Raymond Voinquel's signature, and the stylistic similarity to known images of the actress from this period, it seems highly probable that this portrait was taken in the context of the film *Étoile sans lumière* (1946), a feature film in which Édith Piaf plays a major role. Since Raymond Voinquel was associated with photography in the film industry and produced set photographs and promotional portraits related to post-war film productions, this print can reasonably be linked to a photo shoot conducted during the filming or promotion of the movie. The image's aesthetic--dramatic lighting, a serious and introspective expression--perfectly matches the iconography developed around Piaf in *Étoile sans lumière*, thus reinforcing this probable attribution. The work is presented in a high-quality, understated, and elegant frame that enhances the photograph while ensuring its preservation. Dimensions: - Image size: 26 × 21.5 cm - Framed: 48 × 38 cm

Raymond Voinquel (1912-1985) Raymond Voinquel is one of the most iconic French photographers of the entertainment world in the 20th century. Active primarily from the 1930s to the 1960s, he left a lasting mark on the history of portrait photography with his immediately recognizable style, at once elegant, sculptural, and profoundly psychological. Trained in photography from a very young age, Voinquel quickly established himself as a leading portraitist in the worlds of theater, music, and film. He collaborated with the press, record labels, and cultural institutions, creating images intended for both promotion and posterity. His work accompanied the rise of the great figures of post-war French entertainment. He is particularly famous for his portraits of Édith

Piaf, whom he photographed numerous times from the 1940s onward. These iconic images contributed significantly to shaping the singer's public image: a figure at once fragile, serious, and deeply expressive, captured with rare intensity. Voinquel's portraits of Piaf are now among the most reproduced and sought-after images of the artist. His style is characterized by an exceptional mastery of light, inherited from theater and cinema, using shadows to sculpt faces and enhance the subject's presence. Voinquel favored black and white, tight framing, and an approach that transcended mere likeness to achieve a truly timeless quality. Besides Édith Piaf, Raymond Voinquel photographed many major figures on the French artistic scene, leaving an essential visual record of cultural life in the mid-20th century. His work is now held in public and private collections and remains highly sought after in the market for collectible photography.