



PROANTIC
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Impressionist Painting - Elegant On The Riviera - Mediterranean - French Riviera

300 EUR



Period : 19th century

Condition : A restaurer

Material : Oil painting

Length : 73

Width : 57

Description

French school, late 19th - early 20th century
Elegant woman strolling along the Riviera (probably around Monaco), circa 1890-1910
Oil on canvas
This luminous composition is part of the tradition of resort scenes that developed on the Côte d'Azur at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, as the Riviera became a mecca for the European elite. The scene depicts an elegantly dressed female figure, seen from the back, walking along a sunny path bordered by abundant Mediterranean vegetation, opening onto a marine escape in the background. The compositional device is based on an interplay of successive planes: in the foreground, a path bathed in light, enlivened by the shadows cast by the trees; in the background, a curved low wall that guides the gaze; finally, on the horizon, a strip of calm sea,

Dealer

Galerie Johann Naldi

Tableaux, Dessins, Sculptures

Tel : 06.15.85.19.33

Mobile : 06.15.85.19.33

17 RUE HENRY MONNIER

Paris 75009

suggesting the immediate proximity of the coastline. The female figure, dressed in a light-colored dress and wearing an ornate hat, embodies the discreet elegance of a bourgeois resort. Her isolation within the composition, and her contemplative posture, give the scene a narrative and introspective dimension. She appears less as an individualized portrait than as a social type - that of the walker - emblematic of Belle Époque leisure practices. From a stylistic point of view, the work is characterized by a supple, relatively free brushstroke, particularly in the treatment of vegetation, where leafy masses are suggested by juxtapositions of green and bluish tones. The warm, diffused light shapes volumes without resorting to over-drawing, reflecting a sensibility akin to post-impressionist research. The wide, colorful cast shadows help to structure the space while accentuating the scene's southern atmosphere. The choice of motif - a shaded promenade opening onto the sea - and the treatment of light and figure, evoke the works produced on the Riviera by numerous French and foreign artists seduced by the mild climate and the quality of the light. While the attribution remains open, the work testifies to a convincing assimilation of the pictorial codes associated with the representation of the Mediterranean holiday resort in the Belle Époque. By its subject matter as well as its atmosphere, this canvas is thus an evocative testimony to the imaginary of the Riviera at the dawn of the twentieth century, between worldly elegance and peaceful contemplation of the landscape..