PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Maurice Rétif Tableau Ancien Paysage Animé Abbaye En-calcat Frère Luc Dom Robert Tapestry



600 EUR

Signature : Maurice Rétif

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 75

Height : 91

Description

Lively rural scene around En-Calcat, dated 1955Oil on canvas signed F. Luc and located "En-Calcat" 1955, depicting an animated scene: carriage crossing a wooded path, village figures, shepherd in foreground, flock and dogs in abundant nature, nun driving a cart. The whole is organized in successive planes in a dynamic composition typical of mid-twentieth-century narrative painting.Beautiful painting , structured masses of color, assertive contours, fragmented vegetation, the palette, dominated by greens, ochres and reds, conveys an idealized, warm vision of the rural world. The scene tells a contemplative story, and the synthetic touch is reminiscent of the tapestries in vogue at the time in the abbey, notably from the world of Dom Robert and the tradition of the carton de

Dealer

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Tel : 06 22 14 02 09
Mobile : 06 22 14 02 09

Toulouse
Toulouse 31500

tapisserie: same decorative organization of space, same importance given to bestiary and nature as a central motif. The work is thus part of an aesthetic climate in which reality is transfigured into ornamental composition.The signature "F. Luc" for Frère Luc (Maurice Rétif), a monk artist active in En-Calcat,Good overall condition. Later gilded wooden frame in good condition.Size : 81 x 65 cm (canvas) - 91 x 75 cm (frame)Maurice Rétif (1887-1966), known as Frère Luc after his entry into religion, was a French painter whose career lay at the crossroads of academic training, the revival of sacred art and monastic life in the 20th century.Born in Sancoins, he trained in Paris, notably at the Académie Julian with Paul Laurens, in a setting still marked by the figurative tradition. Very early on, he developed a structured style of painting, committed to legible composition and a decorative approach to the motif, with links to post-impressionist and synthetic currents.His career took a decisive turn when he became close to Maurice Denis, a major figure in the revival of sacred art. Under this influence, Rétif moved towards a conception of art in which painting was no longer limited to representation, but took part in a spiritual and decorative vision of the world.In 1930, he entered the Benedictine abbey of En-Calcat and took the name of Frère Luc. Here he joined an exceptional artistic milieu, marked in particular by the presence of Dom Robert, who was to become one of the great creators of contemporary tapestry. In this context, art is seen as a form of prayer and ordering of reality, where nature, animals and human figures are integrated into harmonious compositions.Frère Luc plays an active role in the artistic life of the abbey, notably through the design of stained glass windows, but also through his pictorial production, which blends religious subjects and secular scenes. His rural and pastoral works, such as those at En-Calcat in the 1950s, reflect a peaceful vision of the world: nature is structured, inhabited, transfigured, in a spirit close to that of Dom Robert's tapestry

cartoons.His style is characterized by simplified forms, flat tints of color, legible drawing and decorative organization of the surface. This approach places him in a filiation that links the French figurative tradition with a renewed spiritual sensibility, inherited from Maurice Denis and developed in the monastic setting.Today, Maurice Rétif / Frère Luc emerges as a singular figure in 20th-century French painting, whose work is part of the artistic climate of En-Calcat: a place where faith, nature and creation meet, in a profoundly unified vision of art and the world.