



Paul Jean Hugues (1891 - 1972) - Interior



480 EUR

Signature : Paul Jean Hugues (1891 - 1972)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 27cm

Height : 22cm

Description

Paul Jean HUGUES Paris, March 6, 1891 - December 4, 1972 "Reflections in the ice" Oil on canvas, 22x27cm Size with frame: 35x40cm Signed lower middle Provenance:- private collection, Strasbourg This delicate oil on canvas by Paul Jean Hugues (1891-1972), titled on the back Reflections in the mirror, is a remarkable testament to the intimate interior painting the artist developed throughout his career. Small in size - 22 x 27 cm (35 x 40 cm with its elegant frame) - the work nevertheless possesses a quiet, refined presence, where the subtlety of light and the domestic atmosphere take precedence over any demonstrative effect. The composition depicts a bourgeois drawing room bathed in soft, diffused light. The eye is immediately drawn to the fireplace

Dealer

Neustadt Galerie

Tableaux, objets d'art du Grand Est

Tel : 0388350218

Mobile : 0678528266

28 avenue de la Marseillaise

Strasbourg 67000

surmounted by an antique mirror with curved lines, the true visual axis of the work. Far from being a mere decorative element, the mirror here becomes an essential pictorial instrument: it opens up space, multiplies planes and introduces a discreet but skilfully constructed play of depth. The very title, *Reflections in the mirror*, underlines this subtle research into perception, shimmer and light vibrations. The artist describes with great sensitivity the furniture of a refined interior: Louis XV or Louis XVI armchairs, a small round table, a lamp topped with a cream lampshade, a fireplace animated by gilded andirons, a floral bouquet placed in the foreground. However, Paul Jean Hugues never seeks cold descriptive accuracy. Shapes remain lightly melted into a supple, vibrant paste, where contours seem to dissolve under the effects of the interior light. The chromatic palette, dominated by muted tones of grayish greens, warm beiges, muted pinks and mordant browns, contributes fully to this impression of silent intimacy. A few stronger accents - notably in the reds of the furniture in the background, or in the reflections of the fireplace - punctuate the composition without ever breaking its overall harmony. The brushstroke remains free, rapid in places, almost impressionistic in its treatment of secondary objects, while certain areas, notably around the mirror and sofa, bear witness to a more constructed attention to material and light. This work is part of a long tradition of French interior painting, heir as much to the intimists of the late 19th century as to post-impressionist research into domestic ambiances. Here we find the desire to capture not just a place, but a sensation: that of an inhabited space, calm and suspended outside time. The mirror then acts as a discreet symbol of memory and contemplation, introducing an almost psychological dimension into this silent scene. Paul Jean Hugues reveals here all his talent in the difficult art of interior atmospheres. Through sensitive, elegant and deeply balanced painting, he transforms a simple living room into

a veritable space of everyday poetry, where every piece of furniture, every reflection and every luminous nuance participates in a subtle evocation of bourgeois calm and the French *douceur de vivre* of the 20th century.