



François Marius Berthet (1885-1941) Walkers In The Woods

1 200 EUR



Signature : François Marius Berthet (1885-1941)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Length : 35 cm

Height : 26,5 cm

Description

Unusual colors and shapes, a generous use of paint, characterize this mysterious and luxuriant undergrowth by the Marseilles artist François Marius Berthet (1885-1941). Something captivating emanates from this oil on wood panel depicting a couple supporting each other and picking flowers in a mystical, Garden of Eden-like atmosphere. The work is presented in a simple frame measuring 36.5 cm x 45 cm, while the panel itself measures 26.5 cm x 35 cm. In good condition, it is signed in the lower right corner. An honest and gifted artist, highly regarded by his peers, but unfortunately little known because he died young during the Second World War. A painter of the Marseilles Canal Bohemian scene, who followed in the footsteps of Louis Audibert in the 1920s with the Poteau

Dealer

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19th and 20th century Provencal School paintings

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group, then became associated with the Proletarian Painters group at the Maison de la Culture in 1936. With his partner Marthe Aquarone, he had left the countryside--"l'Enclos" in Le Merlan--and in 1938 shared a studio at what is now 30 Cours d'Estienne d'Orves (30 Cours du Vieux Port at the time). They also exhibited together at the Union des Artistes de Provence, Berthet mainly landscapes, seascapes, and drawings, and Aquarone figures and landscapes. A spitting image of Alfred de Musset, he lived in Le Merlan and would take a taxi down to Marseille on the good days when he squandered his funds, and the tram when he was broke, for money burned a hole in his pocket. This exquisite being, of incomparable culture and erudition, nearly was shot in 1917. Although a soldier in the army, he sent drawings--defeatist in nature--to dissident publications (they existed even then), but he managed to appease the anger of the Colonel who wanted to send him to the Falot and did not die until 1941, mourned by all the Montparnos of Marseille.