



## François Marius Berthet (1885-1941) In The Carénage Basin - Old Port Of Marseille

1 600 EUR



Signature : François Marius Berthet (1885-1941)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting on cardboard

Length : 33 cm

Height : 25 cm

### Description

White masses on the quay, likely blocks of Carrara marble or Cassis stone, a unloading barge, to the left the Pont Transbordeur, and in the background the Old Quarters of Marseille. Generous brushstrokes applied with great skill and the warm colors of a late afternoon on the dry dock basin of the Old Port of Marseille characterize this distinctive work by the Marseille painter François Marius Berthet (1885-1941). The work is executed in oil on cardboard and is offered in a wide, gilded frame (which can be replaced with a modern shadow box frame) measuring 46.5 cm by 54 cm, with the painting itself measuring 25 cm by 33 cm. In its original, good condition, it is signed in the lower left corner. A painter of the Marseilles Canal Bohemian scene, he followed in the footsteps of

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19th and 20th century Provençal School paintings

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Louis Audibert in the 1920s with the Poteau 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 of L'Enclosin 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. Here is Berthet as well, the 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 man, of incomparable culture and erudition, nearly got shot in 1917. Although a soldier in the army, he sent defeatist drawings to dissident publications (they already existed back 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 Montparnassians of Marseille.