



**PROANTIC**  
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## Auguste Chabaud (1882-1955) The Return Of The Herd

7 500 EUR



Signature : Auguste Chabaud (1882-1955)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 81 cm

Height : 65 cm

### Description

The intensity of Prussian blue and the strength of the characteristic black outlines of Auguste Chabaud's Expressionist palette and technique. The fleeting, stylized silhouette of a shepherd returning to the farmhouse with his sheep, trees stripped of their foliage, and the few red flames from a fire in a corner of a fireplace or forge herald the arrival of winter in a hamlet in the Alpilles. The work is painted in oil on canvas and is presented in an elegant R.G. frame in the Louis XIV style measuring 84.5 cm by 101 cm and 65 cm by 81 cm for the canvas alone. In excellent condition, it is signed in the lower right corner and bears the family's inventory number "878" on the back, as well as a studio stamp. Auguste Chabaud entered the Avignon School of Fine Arts in 1896, where he studied

### Dealer

#### Galerie Marina

19th and 20th century Provencal School paintings

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under Pierre Grivolos. Then, in 1899, he went to Paris to continue his studies at the Académie Julian and the École des Beaux-Arts, in the studio of Fernand Cormon (1845-1924). There he met Henri Matisse and André Derain. His parents' vineyard suffered during the 1900 economic crisis, forcing Auguste Chabaud to return to the South of France. In 1901, to earn a living, Auguste Chabaud had to leave Paris and signed on as a pilot on a ship, discovering the West African coast. That same year, his father died; he and his brother inherited the vineyard and the land, which only his brother would manage. During this period, Chabaud worked extensively on butcher's paper. From 1903 to 1906, he served in the military in Tunisia, returning with sketchbooks filled with local scenes, including numerous drawings of soldiers, indigenous people, and bar scenes populated by women and sailors. Back in Paris, Chabaud made his debut in 1907 at the Salon des Indépendants, exhibiting alongside the Fauves. He discovered a new life: Parisian nightlife and cabarets. Collectors began to take an interest in his work. In Montmartre, where he had his studio, he painted the bustling and deserted streets and squares, scenes of nightlife, and brothels. In 1911, he began his Cubist period, working on large canvases and sculpting. Numerous exhibitions followed, including one in New York in 1913 where he exhibited alongside Henri Matisse, André Derain, Maurice de Vlaminck, and Pablo Picasso, and later in Chicago and Boston. His Fauvist paintings depict Parisian nightlife: cabarets, café-theaters, prostitutes, rendered in vibrant colors (yellow, red) contrasting with the colors of the night (navy blue, black). Upon his return from the First World War in 1919, Auguste Chabaud settled permanently in Graveson, in the Alpilles mountains. From 1920 onward, he began his Blue Period (using pure Prussian blue) in which Provence, its people, and its customs took center stage. The South, which he had never ceased to paint, even during his time in Paris, would

henceforth occupy his entire life. Like Paul Cézanne with Mont Sainte-Victoire, Auguste Chabaud immortalized "the small mountain," painting rural scenes of peasants traversing the hills and paths of the Alpilles. He remained there until the end of his life, living a secluded life in his home with his wife and seven children.

Nicknamed the "Hermit of Graveson," he died in 1955. Some of his works can be seen in Marseille at the Cantini Museum, in Paris at the National Museum of Modern Art and the Museum of Modern Art of the City of Paris, and in Geneva at the Petit Palais. In 1992, the PACA Regional Council opened a museum in his honor in Graveson. Painters regularly pay tribute to him, such as Claude Viallat in 2003. Auguste Chabaud wrote poems and books such as: *\*L'Estocade de vérité\**, *\*Le Tambour Gautier\**, and *\*Je me suis pris pour Démosthène\**. Works in public collections: France: Toulon, Museum of Art: *\*Villeneuve-lès-Avignon\**, oil on cardboard, 53 × 76 cm. Troyes, Museum of Modern Art: *\*La Gare\**, 1907, oil on canvas, 73 × 100 cm. Centre National Pompidou, Beaubourg Museum Paris, Hermitage Museum Saint Petersburg, Vatican Museum Rome, Switzerland Geneva, Petit Palais Museum.