



PROANTIC
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Raoul Duvernon, 1911: The Entrance To The Port Of Marseille

3 800 EUR



Signature : Raoul Duvernon

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting

Length : 203 cm

Height : 130 cm

Description

To create this iconic image of the port of Marseille, the painter set up his studio in the Pharo Gardens--precisely where there is still today a charming open-air café that I recommend for a blissful midday lunch, where both he and you, you'll let yourself drift into a dreamlike state as you watch the boats go by--alas, no longer those great cargo sailing ships--in a silence that will make you forget you're in the city. It is this sun-drenched image, full of peace and gentleness, that our artist has delicately captured on this immense canvas (one meter by two meters!) Raoul Terasson-Duvernon (1869-1925) remains something of a mystery: in fact, we have very little information about him. Born in Marseille and trained in Cormon's studio, he spent the first part of his life in the Phocæan

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city. Paintings in certain museums show that he painted the surroundings of Marseille; but, undoubtedly from a good family like Louis Gautier, he felt no need to exhibit or sell his work. He later settled in Remiremont in the Vosges, where he continued to paint while his wife, a pianist, gave lessons and organized concerts. Curiously, twenty years ago I acquired a painting of similar dimensions that was the counterpart to this one, depicting a view of the heart of the Old Port taken from aboard a sailboat entering the harbor. The existence of a series--not fully known--the original vertical format, and all these details lead me to believe that this is a painting intended to decorate a shipowner's salon or one of Marseille's many brasseries that have, alas, since disappeared. The sun glints off the hull of this old sailboat returning empty (the waterline is high; it's not loaded)--the small boats, the tugboat--everything is finely rendered. Fort Saint-Jean towers over the scene with its instantly recognizable tower. This magnificent painting was recently cleaned, and the two tiny nicks from moving it have fortunately disappeared. It is therefore in excellent condition, ready to brighten up your home