



Dauchez André (1870-1948) The Seine At Les Andelys

300 EUR



Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Length : 20

Width : 34

Description

André Dauchez (1870-1948) was a French painter and printmaker best known for his seascapes and river landscapes, in which he sought an almost ascetic restraint in his artistic approach. His views of the Seine Valley extend this same contemplative gaze--previously applied to estuaries and major waterways--with a keen focus on shifting light and sky. Born in Paris and trained early on in drawing and printmaking, Dauchez established himself as a landscape artist at the turn of the century, winning a silver medal at the Paris World's Fair and a gold medal in Pittsburgh that same year. An officer of the Legion of Honour, a member of the Académie des Beaux-Arts, and an Official Painter of the Navy from 1922 onwards, he held a prominent institutional position while remaining faithful to

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simple subjects: riverbanks, estuaries, and wind-swept alders and pines. He is often described as a "painter of estuaries and wind," as his compositions prioritize silence, space, and an economy of anecdotal detail. While Brittany--specifically the mouth of the Odet, the Pays Bigouden, and Loctudy--remained his preferred territory, his Seine Valley landscapes employ the same visual vocabulary: the broad horizontal lines of the banks, masses of vegetation seen in silhouette (contre-jour), and the river itself rendered as a luminous expanse that structures the entire field of vision. In these river scenes, Dauchez works with grays, muted tones, and half-tints, favoring the atmosphere of overcast skies or the end of the day--qualities that lend the subject a meditative rather than picturesque character. For him, the Seine--like the Odet--becomes a motif of permanence and inner calm: the river concentrates the landscape, while the wind and clouds mark the passage of time, as evidenced by this panorama of the Seine Valley seen from Château Gaillard near Les Andelys--a work likely created to illustrate a book on the small towns of France.

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