



PROANTIC
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Delphin Enjolras - Woman Reading By Lamplight - Pastel On Cardboard



2 500 EUR

Signature : ENJOLRAS Delphin (1865 - 1945, France)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Pastel

Width : 38 cm (à vue) / 58,5 cm encadré

Height : 55,5 cm (à vue) / 75 cm encadré

Description

Delphin ENJOLRAS (1865-1945)"Woman Reading by Lamplight"Pastel on cardboard55.5 x 38 cm (as is) -- 75 x 58.5 cm with frameExcellent conditionA composition of rare elegance, perfectly representative of the intimate scenes for which Delphin Enjolras is highly sought after today. A young woman in a nightgown, her shoulders bare and her hair framed by a ribboned bonnet, is absorbed in reading a letter by the warm glow of a lamp with a pink shade. The artist's characteristic chiaroscuro is fully expressed here: the artificial light envelops the reader's face and hands, makes the satin fabric of her dress shimmer, and spills onto the nearby side table, where a bouquet of roses and a goblet add a touch of color and bourgeois refinement.The brushwork is lively and energetic, consisting of

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layered colorful smudges--a technique typical of Enjolrasian pastel that gives the scene its distinctive luminous vibrancy. The subject of the woman reading by lamplight--a favorite theme of the artist's that he explored on numerous occasions--demonstrates here a masterful command of nocturnal lighting and the subdued atmosphere of a opulent early 20th-century interior. The work is unsigned, which should in no way concern the art lover: Enjolras, who often worked in series on variations of the same theme intended for the decorative arts market and the illustrated magazines of his time, did not systematically sign each of his prints. The style--the treatment of light, the color palette, the model's type, the furniture, and the accessories--is perfectly characteristic here and leaves little doubt as to its attribution. Condition Excellent condition. The original frame, made of wood and gilded stucco with rocaille decoration (shells and fleurons at the corners, an openwork cartouche on the pediment), has accompanied the work since its creation. It has undergone some restoration and shows a slight loss of gilding in the depth of the stucco, which is not visible from the front. The Artist Delphin Enjolras was born in 1865 in Coucouron, in the Ardèche region. Trained at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, he exhibited regularly at the Salon des Artistes Français beginning in the 1890s. He specialized early on in a genre that would establish his reputation: nocturnal interior scenes, illuminated by a lamp, a candle, or moonlight, in which young women read, embroider, write, or dream, captured in silent intimacy. Enjolras excels at rendering artificial light and its effects on skin, fabrics, and surrounding objects--a virtuosic feat that at times brings him close to the explorations of other pastel artists of his time regarding the play of light. He worked equally well in oil and pastel, a technique particularly suited to his taste for luminous impasto and colorful smudges. Highly active right up through the interwar period, he enjoyed considerable commercial success, his

works being appreciated for their charm and the subdued atmosphere typical of the Belle Époque. Delphin Enjolras passed away in 1945. Long considered a minor painter, he has seen a marked resurgence of interest among collectors over the past several decades; his pastels depicting women reading by lamplight are now among the most sought-after pieces in his body of work. Work on view and available for pickup at the gallery (07240) Shipping: Please contact us for shipping or delivery costs within France and internationally.