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Rodolphe Caillaux: Modern Paintings Of Horse Racing, Horses, Jockeys, The Paddock, And The School



1 250 EUR

Signature : Rodolphe Caillaux

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 51

Height : 60

Description

Rodolphe Caillaux - The Jockeys - Oil on canvas, School of Paris. A beautiful oil on canvas by Rodolphe Caillaux depicting a group of jockeys and horses gathered at a racetrack, in the paddock, or in the parade ring before the start. In **The Jockeys**, the artist captures the moment of tension that precedes the race. The horses are gathered around the stablehands, lads, and jockeys wearing their colorful silks. This scene could be set in the paddock, the parade ring, or along the track, before the jockeys mount their horses and the competitors enter the starting gates. The composition employs a tight frame, with almost no sense of landscape depth. The horses and figures fill the entire surface of the canvas, giving the impression that the scene continues beyond the painting's edges. The brown

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horse on the left is partially cut off by the edge of the composition, reinforcing the sense of a snapshot and of movement. Its hindquarters, neck, and the jockey's legs form a large ascending diagonal. In the center, a black horse viewed in three-quarter rear view forms the main axis of the painting. The curve of its hindquarters, extended by its sloping neck, organizes the entire scene. Its jockey, wearing a yellow silks and a purple cap, stands out against a blue-gray background. On the left, a second orange-red silks forms the most intense chromatic focal point of the work. Several figures crowd around the riders: lads, stablehands, trainers, owners, and spectators. The painter depicts them from the back or in profile, without attempting to distinguish their individual faces. The figures become masses of color that help guide the viewer's gaze. The red, yellow, orange, burgundy, and purple jockey jackets give rhythm to the composition and stand out against the deep greens of the ground and the dark coats of the horses. Rodolphe Caillaux, born in 1904 and died in 1989, belonged to the generation of figurative painters of the École de Paris. His work is characterized by a dense, colorful, and highly structured style, devoted to landscapes, harbors, scenes of everyday life, the world of bullfighting, and animated subjects. His style combines an expressive simplification of forms, broad dark outlines, and generously applied paint. He constructs space through the contrast of volumes rather than through traditional perspective. Horses are rendered as large masses of brown, black, or petrol blue. The smaller figures in the foreground accentuate their monumentality. The vertical lines of the legs, the curves of the necks, and the diagonal lines of the arms create an impression of concentration, impatience, and restrained movement.