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Jean Osmont Painting Modern Sextet Live Jazz Music Hot Club Carcassonne Saxophone Trombone

350 EUR



Signature : Jean Osmont

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 65

Height : 46

Description

Jean Osmont - "Swingtet" - Jazz Band - Oil on canvas - French School, 20th century
A beautiful composition depicting a jazz band captured in the moment. Seated around the pianist are several musicians playing instruments such as the saxophone, trombone, and drums. The title "Swingtet" is handwritten on the back of the work. Here, the artist constructs the scene like a true pictorial score. The silhouettes are simplified, cut out against the color, yet remain immediately recognizable through their poses, their instruments, and the rhythm of their movements. The yellow trombone, which runs horizontally across the upper part of the painting, forms a dynamic line and draws the eye toward the drum set on the right. The color palette is remarkable: purples and mauves dominate the

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background, complemented by vivid lemon yellows, oranges, reds, greens, and blues. The figures stand out against broad blocks of color outlined in pale pink. The paint is applied generously, with visible impasto, layers, and textural effects that lend the surface a strong sense of presence. The composition effectively captures the atmosphere of jazz: the clustering of instruments, the closeness of the musicians, visual syncopation, and contrasting colors. The pianist, positioned on the left, opens the scene; the saxophonists form the center of the composition; the trombonist and the drummer round out the group on the right. A musician himself--a trumpeter--Osmont played an active role in the emergence of the Carcassonne jazz scene. After a pivotal meeting in Montauban with Hugues Panassié--founder of the Hot Club de France and a leading figure in the promotion of jazz in France--he helped establish the Hot Club de Jazz de Carcassonne in 1941. In 1943, the group included Dominique Orlanducci on guitar, René Miquel on clarinet, Pierre Palau on drums, Big Boyer on double bass, and Jean Osmont on trumpet. The group distinguished itself on several occasions at the Pleyel competitions, with the help of Pierre Louise, father of the future organist Eddy Louiss. During the Occupation, the Hot Club was welcomed at the Café des Colonies in Carcassonne, despite the risks associated with the authorities' distrust of jazz. This biography sheds direct light on the painting "Swingtet": the orchestra scene is not a subject chosen from the outside, but refers to the personal experience of Jean Osmont, a jazz musician, leader of the Hot Club de Carcassonne, and a firsthand witness to this musical culture as early as the 1940s. Toward the end of his life, he was regarded as the dean of Aude jazz musicians.