



PROANTIC
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Madeleine Luka (1894-1989), *the Nurse*, 1928, Oil On Canvas



2 800 EUR

Signature : Madeline LUKA (1894-1989)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Description

Madeleine LUKA (1894-1989)The Nurse,
1928Oil on canvasSigned "madeleine LUKA"
lower rightTitled and dated on an old exhibition
label on the back48 x 38 cmProvenance: Artist's
family, by descent.Exhibition: Galerie Zak, Paris
6th arrondissement, label on the back.Born in
1894 in Val-d'Oise, Madeleine Bottet(known as
Madeleine Luka) adopted an artist's name based
on that of her husband, Robert Kula. Self-taught,
she taught herself painting and poetry. She is
counted among the naïve painters who flourished
without a teacher or set method.Madeleine Luka's
painting reflects her rejection of technicality and
intellectualism, "scourges of the 20th century" as
described by her writer friend Francis Jammes
(1868-1938)*. Painting the spontaneous
innocence of her family circle fulfills a deep need

Dealer

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within the young woman. A tender childhood, a dreamy adolescence, fragile motherhood, and animals depicted amid a jubilant natural world constitute her favorite themes. Her world, constructed like an Eden, is populated by figures brimming with grace and innocence. Her paintings transcend space and time to evoke the sounds and scents of happy memories that are now eternal. Critics welcomed her work, quickly overlooking the clumsiness of her early pieces. The art historian Élie Faure (1873-1937) saw in her work a depiction of simple emotions, a revitalizing style of painting that "does not seek conformity outside the heart"**. Madeleine Luka exhibited regularly at the Salon des Tuileries and the Salon d'Automne between 1927 and 1938. Beginning in 1931, she participated in group exhibitions organized by the Société des Femmes Artistes Modernes, founded by Marie-Anne Camax-Zoegger. In 1935, her work was exhibited at the Bernheim-Jeune Gallery as well as in various French galleries in the postwar period.

*Bertrand Poirot-Delpech, Madeleine Luka, Paintings, Paris, Éditions André Saurêt, 1976.

**Bertrand Poirot-Delpech, Madeleine Luka, Paintings, Paris, Éditions André Saurêt, 1976, pp. 10-11; presentation of the Madeleine Luka exhibition at the Simonson Gallery, April 1931.

Public Collections Washington, D.C., National Gallery of Art - Paris, Petit Palais, Museum of Fine Arts - Albi, Toulouse-Lautrec Museum - Grenoble, Museum of Fine Arts - L'Isle-Adam, Louis Senlecq Museum of Art and History - Amiens, Musée de Picardie

Bibliography Bertrand Poirot-Delpech, Madeleine Luka, Paintings, Paris, Éditions André Saurêt, 1976. Jean-Albert Cartier, Madeleine Luka, Paris, Éditions Orféa, 1954.