# Jean Rigaud (1912-1999) / The Skies Of Castile 1960 / Oil On Canvas



950 EUR

Signature : JEAN RIGAUD (1912-1999)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Material : Oil painting

## Description

JEAN RIGAUD (1912-1999) THE SKIES OF CASTILE OIL ON CANVAS, 1960 signed lower left, titled, countersigned and dated "Oct. 60" and located on the back 19 × 27.5 cm unframed 32.5 × 41 cm with frame A beautiful evocation of the landscapes of Castile, where Jean Rigaud captures, with remarkable freedom of brushstroke, the light, the colors, and the vastness of this region of Spain. What immediately strikes the viewer in this composition is that intense, deep, almost mesmerizing blue, so characteristic of the skies of Castile. Those who have traveled across these vast Spanish plateaus will recognize this distinctive light, this sense of infinite space where the sky seems to reign unchallenged over the landscape. A few white clouds, generously rendered with thick, vigorous brushstrokes, drift

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ARTYGEORGES
Peinture ancienne & moderne
Tel : 0471689602
Mobile : 0674559787

Montclard
Anglards-de-Salers 15380

across the azure sky. Their presence brings movement to this vast expanse of blue and contrasts with the warmth of the land stretching out at their feet. Below, the full palette of the Castilian landscape unfolds: golden ochres, sun-scorched yellows, Sienna earth tones, orange-reds, and shades of beige. A few trees with dark silhouettes, reminiscent of the holm oaks that dot the landscapes of the Meseta, break up the bareness of these expanses. It is a land with a history stretching back millennia, a land of history, myths, and legends. An austere and luminous land, one of vast horizons, ancient paths, and the world of Cervantes and Don Quixote. A land whose beauty lies precisely in its simplicity, silence, and immensity. Here, Jean Rigaud succeeds, with great economy of means, in expressing the full character of this landscape. The brushstrokes are swift, spontaneous, and at times almost abstract. A few dark accents are enough to suggest the trees, while broad brushstrokes convey the undulations of the terrain. The contrast between the brilliant blue of the sky and the warm tones of the earth gives this small composition a particularly strong presence. More than a simple topographical representation, this painting is a vtrue evocation of Castile, of its light and its timeless character. The work is presented in its warm-toned wooden frame, accented with a thin gold border. Jean Rigaud (1912-1999) Born in Bordeaux in 1912, Jean Rigaud was the son of the painter Pierre-Gaston Rigaud. He continued his training at the École nationale des beaux-arts in Paris, notably in André Devambez's studio. A landscape painter and avid traveler, he developed a body of work characterized by a luminous palette, generous brushwork, and a free and expressive touch, in the Post-Impressionist tradition. In 1937, he collaborated with his father on the decoration of the Guyenne and Gascony Pavilion at the Paris World's Fair, a project that was awarded a gold medal. Beginning in 1954, he exhibited at the prestigious Durand-Ruel Gallery in Paris. He was

appointed Official Painter to the Navy in 1956. While seascapes, Breton ports, and the Île d'Yeu feature prominently in his work, his travels also took him to Italy, Spain, Morocco, and Egypt. His stay in Spain inspired several landscapes of Castile in 1960, in which he explored the contrasts of light and the intensity of colors in these southern lands. His works are included in various public collections, notably those of the French government, the City of Paris, and the National Maritime Museum. Jean Rigaud died in 1999, the year a retrospective of his work was held at the National Maritime Museum.