PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Jos Henri Ponchin (1897-1981) Les Martigues



2 600 EUR

Signature : Jos Henri Ponchin (1897-1981)

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Oil painting on wood

Length : 65 cm

Height : 54 cm

Description

A rich texture and contrasts between the warm earth tones--ochre, pink, and orange--of the facades and the riverbank, and the cool blue-greens of the water.The play of light and shadow in the foreground on the boat and the riverbank intensifies the sense of full Mediterranean sunshine. On the right, a red fishing net addsa brighter touch and balances the bell tower on the left.The work, in very good condition, is painted in oil on a wooden panel; it is presented in a gilded frame with a slightly brown patina measuring 73 cm by 84 cm and 54 cm by 65 cm for the panel alone.It depicts flat-bottomed fishing boats, known as "bettes," native to the Etang de Berre; on the right, a net spread out on a "talentou"; on the left, the Church Sainte Marie Madeleine, and, high up on the hills,

Dealer

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Mobile : +33 6 12 18 42 09

5, Place Mirabeau
Cassis 13260

one of the town's many chapels. One senses a connection to late Impressionism through his father, Antoine Ponchin, and the other Provençal painters who worked in Martigues. The work is signed in the lower left corner; on the back is a dedication dating it to1935.A subject much appreciated by art lovers, this is a solid, luminous, and very enjoyable work that effectively captures the atmosphere of this beautiful fishing village, which was once known as the "Venice of Provence" before industries were established on the Étang de Berre and the resulting urbanization.Son of the painter Antoine Ponchin, who instilled in him a love of drawing and encouraged his artistic calling, enabling him to pursue a solid academic trainin gunder Cormon and Dawant at the École des Beaux-Arts. He exhibited at the Salon des Artistes Français beginning in 1920 and won several awards there: the TH. RalliPrize (1920) and the Henri Zuber Prize (1929). After initial experiences in Corsica and then in Algeria, he ventured to Asia, following his father, who had just won the Indochina Prize and was entrusted with a major official commission from the government. The young painter took a teaching position at the French high school in Hanoi, until his return to France in 1931. After two years in Reims, he returned to settle his family in the South, where he seemed particularly drawn to landscape painting. He devoted most ofhis work to capturing on canvas the effects of light in Mediterranean landscapes. He was a drawing teacher at the Lycée Thiers in Marseille toward the end of his career. The Marseille Museum of Fine Arts holds his series "Annamite Women"in its collection.The Regards de Provence Foundation in Marseille dedicated a retrospective to him in 2022.