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Parc fleuri au printemps
Flowering Park in the Spring
Oil on Canvas, Signed Bottom Left
74 x 92 cm 29.1 x 26.2 in

Victor CHARRETON 1864-1936

Victor Charreton was born in Bourgoin, Isere, France. Before devoting himself entirely to art, Victor Charreton studied law and practiced in Lyon. Information is unavailable as to why he disowned his initial career in favor of painting but at some point he studied with Ernest-Victor Hareux and Louis Japy. He made his Salon debut in Lyon in 1894 and also in Paris the same year. Working in both oil and pastel, he initially created landscapes in the tradition of the Lyonnaise school, emphasizing the light effects of snow and twilight. After his marriage, he was introduced to the Auvergne and his style profoundly reflected this change of sensibility. As we can see in this coastal view, Charreton has aptly captured a sense of light which was not as apparent in his earlier works. His use of color and brushwork is Impressionistic in nature and leans towards the Fauvist group.

Charreton continued to exhibit at the Salon in Paris until his death. He was awarded a gold medal in 1913 and was also elected to be a member of the Salon committee. He became one of the founders of the Salon d'Automne of which he was the Secretary. He was also elected as an officer of the Légion d'honneur. Le Musée de Montmartre organized a retrospective of his work in 1972. A book dedicated to his work entitled *A Magician of Color* was published by the friends of Charreton in 1970.

This artwork is reproduced in the "Catalogue Raisonné" of the Artist by Dr Robert CHATIN, p459 under nb 941.