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Pair of Marines

Oil on Panel, Signed Bottom Right

Dimensions : 22 x 15,5 cm 8.66 x 6.10 in

Eugène Galien-Laloue 1854-1951

Galien Laloue, one of the acknowledged best painters of Paris, was living most of his life in Montmartre. Born in 1854 to Charles Laloue, a set designer working for a Parisian theatre, he was the oldest of nine children. Eugene Galien-Laloue is recognized as one of the top masters of French impressionist street scenes. Beginning in 1877 he was student of Charles Laloue, a long-time member of the Artistes Francais, a prestigious French art association. Gifted beyond measure, Galien-Laloue became well known at the turn of the century for capturing the very ambiance of Paris on his canvas. Galien-Laloue had the uncanny ability to give the illusion of detail in an impressionistic style. A typical Galien-Laloue painting depicted scenes of Parisian sidewalks and avenues crowded with people or turn-of-the-century tourists mingling before the capital's monuments.

Watching his father's work, Galien became interested in art when he was very young. In 1870 Laloue's father died. The 16 year old boy had to leave school and get a job. In 1874 Laloue was employed by the French Railway lines. The company was expanding its network from Paris to most parts of France and needed an illustrator to travel and paint the new section of the rail network. His favourite subjects, however, were always scenes of life in Paris.). Laloue was popular and his paintings sold very well. He was loved not only by the French, but also by the American and British collectors. His nostalgic, meticulous paintings appeal even nowadays, as most of the background details still exist and can be recognised while walking around the streets, boulevards and the quays of the city. Eugène Galien Laloue worked under many pseudonyms, possibly for contractual reasons. The three most frequent names in which he signed, in addition to his own, were "J. Lievin", "E. Galiany" and "L. Dupuy".

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