

WILLOW GALLERY



L'Alouette, Maison de L'Artiste à Cailhau

Achille Laugé (1861 - 1944)

Oil on panel, signed.

Panel size: 19 x 28in / 48 x 71cm

Frame size: 27.5 x 36.5in / 70 x 93cm

PROVENANCE

Private Collection, France

LITERATURE

This painting is accompanied by certificate no.599 from Mrs Nicole Tamburini and will be included in her forthcoming catalogue raisonné of the artist.

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Achille Laugé was a Neo-Impressionist painter born in Arzens. In 1882, he began his studies at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts under the direction of French artists Alexandre Cabanel (1823–1889) and Jean-Paul Laurens (1838–1921). In Paris, he met artist Aristide Maillol (1861–1944), with whom he shared a studio and maintained a life-long exchange and friendship. Laugé never followed his teachers' methods and advice, and his work was considered radical for its time. Influenced by French Neo-Impressionist painters Georges Seurat (1859–1891), Paul Signac (1863–1935), and Camille Pissarro (1831–1903), Laugé adopted elements of their style without aligning himself with Seurat's strict and scientific method. Laugé's use of dots of color – or the Divisionist technique – evolved into a cross-hatching technique after 1896. By 1905, he had adopted looser and larger strokes with thick impasto, a style reminiscent of the more traditional Impressionist approach.

After his father died, Laugé moved to Cailhau, near Carcassonne. There he built a modest house which he named l'Alouette, and most of his paintings of this time depict the surrounding area, which he viewed from a specially-constructed wagon workshop.

Laugé exhibited at the Salon des Indépendants in 1894, and later that year at the Salon de Toulouse, together with French artists Pierre Bonnard (1867–1947), Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864–1901), and Édouard Vuillard (1868–1940). He also had several one-man shows in Paris, Toulouse, and Perpignan between 1907 and 1930. Laugé's Pointillist painting *Devant la Fenêtre* (1899), which was rejected from the Salon de la Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts in 1900, is now in the Musée National D'Art Moderne's permanent collection in Paris. Laugé's work is held by several museums, including the Musée d'Orsay and the Musée du Louvre in Paris.

40-41 Duke Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6DF · Tel: +44 (0)20 7968 1830 · Email: enquiries@willowgallery.com

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