

19TH CENTURY FRENCH OIL ON CANVAS LANDSCAPE PAINTING SIGNED EMILE GODCHAUX

$4,200

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Painted by the accomplished French academic artist Emile Godchaux (1860–1938), this evocative oil on canvas captures a serene mountain river scene with remarkable detail and atmosphere. Signed in the lower left corner (but hard to read), the composition centers on a rustic stone cabin nestled along the banks of a turquoise alpine stream, framed by towering peaks and a luminous, cloud-streaked sky. A solitary female figure in traditional regional dress walks along a sunlit path, grounding the composition in both scale and quiet narrative. The landscape is believed to depict a view of the Pyrenees, a region where Godchaux often painted during his travels throughout Europe in search of compelling natural subjects. Known for his expressive yet refined treatment of landscape, Godchaux also produced maritime scenes and floral still lifes. His works frequently appeared in the ledgers of Bordeaux art dealers around 1900 and were often sold in public spaces to satisfy debts, reportedly due to his fondness for playing the national lottery. A follower of the Barbizon school, Godchaux embraced a naturalistic approach over romantic idealization, with stylistic affinities to Théodore Rousseau and John Constable. His work is listed in the Benezit Dictionary of Artists and remains highly collectible for its technical finesse and lyrical vision of the rural landscape. (See last picture) The painting is housed in a richly carved giltwood frame and is in excellent condition commensurate with age. A superb example of 19th-century French plein-air painting, ideal for collectors, designers, or anyone drawn to the tranquil beauty of classical European landscape art. 31.75”W x 24.25”H

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