



## Robert Dessales-quentin (1885-1958) Portrait Of The Actor Charles Deschamps (1882-1959)



750 EUR

Signature : Robert Dessales-Quentin

Period : 20th century

Condition : Parfait état

Length : 44 cm hors cadre

Width : 36 cm hors cadre

<https://www.proantic.com/en/1085078-robert-dessales-quentin-1885-1958-portrait-of-the-actor-charles-deschamps-1882-1959.htm.html>

### Description

**Robert DESSALES-QUENTIN**

(Brantôme 1885 - 1958)

Portrait of the actor Charles Deschamps

(1882-1959)

Oil on canvas (fixed on panel)

H. 44 cm; L. 36 cm

Signed and dated on the right in the middle

Signed, dated and dedicated on the lower right

Provenance: Private collection, Brittany

Robert Dessales-Quentin was born in one of the most beautiful villages in France: Brantôme, nicknamed the Venice of Périgord, since located on the banks of the Dronne, a river which has become a natural defense by encircling the town. This small town in the north of Périgord was the

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playground throughout the artist's life. At the age of four, he totally lost his hearing as a result of an unsuitable treatment for his intolerance to quinine, then unknown. His father, a notary from Brantôme, decided to send him quickly to Paris where he would study at the National Institute for the Deaf and Dumb. Aware of his artistic tastes, his parents had him enrolled at the Jullian Academy, in the studio of the famous Jean-Paul Laurens. A man of taste and terribly attached to his land, Dessales-Quentin will easily turn to landscapes rather than to the history painting to which his studies predestined him. It is in Périgord that he will return quickly and will find his way in the representation of the local heritage. Castles, beautiful residences, churches or views of cities will be presented from 1909 at the Salon des Artistes Français in Paris. It is in watercolor that he will be most comfortable, even obtaining in 1928 a Great Honorable Mention at the Salon, a rarity for this medium. In oil he will have several different periods and styles, in particular a period that could be called "wisteria", because of the recurring presence of this plant between the two wars in his paintings. A drawing teacher for more than fifteen years at the great Saint-Joseph Institution in Périgueux, and in his studio on rue du Plantier, he was called the "brilliant left-hander" by his students. It is moreover within this workshop that Dessales-Quentin welcomed the "all-Périgord" each year for an exhibition of his extremely awaited works. Accustomed to old Périgord stones, he will not for all that neglect "elsewhere". Corrèze will be a land of recurring passage, but also the Basque Country, French and Spanish. He will exhibit his works in many French cities, traces of which we find very regularly by the well-known labels on the back of the watercolors and their original framing.

Dessales-Quentin painted the portrait of his contemporary, the actor Charles Deschamps in 1914, when they were both around thirty years old. The young actor has already appeared in

some twenty films since 1909. He will be on the big screen a hundred times throughout his career, but will also evolve on stage, mainly before the war. As for the painter, very comfortable in oil in his first part of his career, he paints a beautiful composition here with a beige background, working well on the shadow areas on the actor's hand and face. At this time, he still signed "Dessal", a simplified name that he stopped using a few years later. This work, signed twice, is dedicated "to Charles Deschamps, friendly".