



## "personnage Dans l'Arbre", Oil On Canvas By Paul Ackerman, France, Circa 1945



6 500 EUR

Signature : Paul Ackerman

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Oil painting

Width : 195 cm

Height : 96 cm

<https://www.proantic.com/en/1262140-quotpersonnage-dans-l-039arbrequot-oil-on-canvas-by-paul-ackerman-france-circa-1945.html>

### Description

Large oil on canvas by Paul Ackerman, entitled « personnage dans l'arbre » (« character in a tree »).

### Biography

Paul Ackerman, Romania-France (1908-1981)

Paul Ackerman is a Romanian painter, lithographer, sculptor and theater designer, living in France since 1912, he belongs to the School of Paris .

Paul Ackerman was four years old when, in 1912, his father, a company director and great art lover, decided, out of constraint in the face of « the anti-Semitism which is a harsh reality in Romania », to come and settle in Paris, in a large villa facing the Bois de Vincennes. He did his

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secondary studies at the Lycée Charlemagne (where he befriended Gabriel Arout, future playwright for whom he would later design the sets), then at the Ecole Alsacienne. From 1925, Ackerman studied law and letters at the Sorbonne, but, frequenting the Louvre Museum assiduously, he knew that his vocation lay elsewhere.

In 1933, Paul Ackerman met Simone Laverrière, a native of Royan, whom he married in 1935. In 1936, in his studio at 100, rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, he designed projects for posters, fabrics and jewelry for Elsa Schiaparelli and Marcel Rochas while visiting Fernand Leger's studio.

In 1939 Paul Ackerman was mobilized, taken prisoner then released, he found his wife Simone in Vichy where he was expelled as a Jew and left for Saint-Tropez. He then leads a cloistered life in the south of France, made up of small means (painting on newsprint), and befriends Pierre Bonnard. From 1942 to 1945, he continued this cloistered life in Chindrieux in Savoie, painting landscapes, nudes, still lifes and self-portraits.

After the Liberation, in 1945, Paul Ackerman returned to his Paris studio, however returning to Saint-Tropez, reuniting with Pierre Bonnard and frequenting Picasso. In Paris, he meets Serge Poliakoff, Jean Dubuffet, Jean-Michel Atlan and especially Alexandre Garbell, with whom he becomes a friend. Soon followed the first exhibition at Raymond Creuze in 1947, the Prix Pacquement in 1950.

The work of Paul Ackerman is characterized by its versatility, its variations, its mutations, its stages, its periods, its cycles, its turns, its metamorphoses, and even its contradictions. Never having been a prisoner of a style, he is both one of the most secret painters of his time and one of those who bear witness to it. If in the

1950s the formal aspect of his work placed him in abstract painting, a more focused look was quick to identify the inspiring concrete reality.

After a 180° turn, Ackerman resolutely returned to figuration in his great Rembrandt, Vivaldi and Dickens cycles. From the outset, one guesses implicitly in his work the reading of certain esoteric authors (René Guénon in particular), which his handwritten notes of personal reflections confirm, but which contradicts the assertion of the artist: « I was not guided I don't know where these pictures came from or why I made them. »

Paul Ackerman's penchant for esotericism was confirmed in 1965 with Agarthā, defined by René Guénon as « an underground world extending its ramifications everywhere under the continents ». Ackerman feels driven to make this invisible world visible. His work, and this is what makes its unity in its plurality, therefore comes from a metaphysics where everything takes on a symbolic meaning.

« Either time will be kind to my work, writes Paul Ackerman in his notes, and will give it that indispensable value which sensitizes a work for generations to come, and in that case I will have been alive, or time will erase what I did and in that case I would never have been more than a little dust".

Died in 1981, he rests in the cemetery of Bagneux.

