



FELIX HEUBERGER "DONAU BEI GREIFENSTEIN" CA. 1930

"Donau bei Greifenstein", Felix Heuberger, ca.
1930, oil on canvas, signed

Felix Heuberger is among those artists of Austrian modernism who developed an independent visual language outside the framework of academic training. As a self-taught painter, he early on cultivated a pronounced sensitivity for landscape painting, driven by a deep enthusiasm for nature. The regions of the Salzkammergut and the Tyrolean Alps, in particular, left a lasting imprint on his work. As early as 1919, two of his paintings were exhibited at the Künstlerhaus in Vienna.

Stylistically, Heuberger's landscapes are informed by the influence of New Objectivity. Emerging after the First World War as a deliberate counterpoint to the emotional intensity of Expressionism, this movement is characterized by a precise, sober, and often cool manner of depiction. In a time marked by social and political fragmentation, artists sought a return to objectivity, creating works that often convey a sense of stillness, subtle melancholy, and detached clarity.

The painting "Danube near Greifenstein" is a compelling example of Heuberger's artistic signature. From an elevated vantage point, the viewer is presented with a sweeping view across the Danube floodplains, whose lush greenery suggests an untouched, almost remote natural world. The composition is defined by a strong sense of perspective, drawing the eye deep into the landscape. Expansive clouds fill the upper half of the canvas, their edges softly illuminated by a delicate silver lining cast by the low sunlight on the horizon. The subdued, cool palette reinforces both a sense of distance and a profound stillness. Devoid of human presence, the landscape takes on a stage-like quality, suspended between observation and atmosphere.

