

# STEPHEN ONGPIN FINE ART



**A. Moraël**

## **A Young Moroccan Girl**

Watercolour.

Signed and dated A. Moraël / Rabat 1921 at the lower right.

A typed label reading 'Cette aquarelle, oeuvre originale de Mademoiselle MORAEL, élève de Mr. DEBAENE, présente une jeune marocaine faite au cours de son séjour au Maroc. Offerte par l'artiste à Madame DEHOUCK, Postière à DUNKERQUE, elle me fut donnée par son mari quelque temps après le décès de Madame Dehouck en Janvier 1930 en reconnaissance de services rendus en cette circonstance. M. Maertens.' pasted onto the old backing board.

300 x 232 mm. (11 7/8 x 9 1/8 in.)

Nothing is known of the female artist responsible for this charming watercolour portrait. It is interesting to note, however, that the artist was visiting Morocco less than a decade after the country had been opened up to foreign visitors. Unlike Tunisia or Algeria, Morocco remained largely closed to foreigners throughout the 19th century, until it was declared a French protectorate in 1912.

### **Provenance:**

Given by the artist to a Mme. Dehouck, Dunkirk

By descent to her husband in January 1930 and given by him to a M. Maertens (according to a typed label on the old backing board).