

# Frédéric Montenard

**Frédéric Montenard** (17 May 1849, [Paris](#) – 11 February 1926, [Besse-sur-Issole](#)) was a French landscape and seascape painter.<sup>[1]</sup>

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Frédéric Montenard  
(date unknown)

## Biography

He came from an old [Provençal](#) family, and his uncle was the sculptor [Jean-Baptiste Giraud](#). His art studies began at the [École des Beaux-arts](#), where his teacher was [Pierre Puvis de Chavannes](#).<sup>[2]</sup> He made his début at the [Salon](#) in 1872 with landscapes and seascapes; participating in their exhibitions on a regular basis for many years. In 1873, he joined with fellow painters [Gustave Garaud](#) and [Octave Gallian](#) to establish a workshop in [Toulon](#), and was joined there in 1878 by [Eugène Dauphin](#), .

He achieved his first career breakthrough in 1883 when two of his paintings were purchased by the French government. Six years later, he won a Gold Medal at the [Exposition Universelle](#). Together with his mentor, Puvis de Chavannes, he helped create the [Société nationale des beaux-arts](#) in 1890. That same year, he was named a Chevalier in the [Légion d'honneur](#).<sup>[3]</sup> The following year, he introduced the famous Brazilian painter [Giovanni Battista Castagneto](#) to [François Nardi](#), the maritime painter, who took Castagneto on as a student.

After 1892, he stopped painting along the Atlantic coast, in favor of Provence, where he painted landscapes and scenes of village life. He also became a teacher at the "École supérieure d'art Toulon Provence Méditerranée". In 1894, he was given a commission to decorate the Palais des Arts in [Marseille](#). Six years later, he produced two large paintings for [Le Train Bleu](#), a famous restaurant filled with the work of notable painters, near the [Gare de Lyon](#) in Paris.

After World War I, he became a permanent resident at the château "Croix de Bontar", which had been built by his father, in Besse-sur-Issole, with a first floor museum devoted to the history of [Brignoles](#). In 1921, he was named an official [Peintre de la Marine](#)<sup>[4]</sup> and, the following year, he provided 34 illustrations for a new edition of *Mireille* by [Frédéric Mistral](#), an author he greatly admired.

A street and a small college in Besse-sur-Issole are named after him.

## References

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1. Benezit Dictionary of Artists (<http://oxfordindex.oup.com/view/10.1093/benz/9780199773787.article.B00124930?rskey=NAVzpp&result=12>)
2. Cyclopedia of Painters and Paintings ([https://books.google.com/books?id=EdNHAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA286&lpg=PA286&dq=Frederic+Montenard+biography&source=bl&ots=sOsAEKaB\\_D&sig=siTGk\\_zW79YZhPTv-WfbOQOllaw&hl=en&sa=X&ei=6SxZVI30H4P2iQKU1IC4CQ&ved=0CB0Q6AEwADgU#v=onepage&q=Frederic%20Montenard%20biography&f=false](https://books.google.com/books?id=EdNHAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA286&lpg=PA286&dq=Frederic+Montenard+biography&source=bl&ots=sOsAEKaB_D&sig=siTGk_zW79YZhPTv-WfbOQOllaw&hl=en&sa=X&ei=6SxZVI30H4P2iQKU1IC4CQ&ved=0CB0Q6AEwADgU#v=onepage&q=Frederic%20Montenard%20biography&f=false)) @ Google Books
3. Documentation: ([http://www.culture.gouv.fr/public/mistral/leonore\\_fr?ACTION=RETROUVER&FIELD\\_1=NOM&VALUE\\_1=MONTENARD&NUMBER=1&GRP=0&REQ=%28%28MONTENARD%29%20%3aNOM%20%29&USRNAME=nobody&USRPWD=4%24%2534P&SPEC=9&SYN=1&IMLY=&MAX1=1&MAX2=1&MAX3=100&DOM=All](http://www.culture.gouv.fr/public/mistral/leonore_fr?ACTION=RETROUVER&FIELD_1=NOM&VALUE_1=MONTENARD&NUMBER=1&GRP=0&REQ=%28%28MONTENARD%29%20%3aNOM%20%29&USRNAME=nobody&USRPWD=4%24%2534P&SPEC=9&SYN=1&IMLY=&MAX1=1&MAX2=1&MAX3=100&DOM=All)) @ the Base Léonore.
4. Peintres Officiels de la Marine website (<http://historic-marine-france.com/huile/montenard.htm>).



The *Belle Poule* at the Port of Toulon (1883)

## Further reading

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- Louise Gaggini et al., *Le Train Bleu*, Edition Presse Lois Unis Service, Paris, 1990 ISBN 2-908557-01-0
- Anonyme, "Biographie de Frédéric Montenard, (1849-1926)", *Journal du centenaire de l'église de la rue Ampère*, 1913-2013

## External links

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- ArtNet: More works by Montenard (<http://www.artnet.com/artists/frederic-montenard/past-auction-results>)
- Collège Frédéric Montenard (<http://www.ac-nice.fr/college-montenard/>) homepage.

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