

[Three Bicycles](#) by [Graciela Rodo Boulanger](#)

Stone Lithograph - Main Subject: Abstract

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Item Number

1056593118

Retail Value

\$400

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Dimensions (As Shown)

18W x 22.5H Inches


45.72W x 57.15H cm


Medium

Stone Lithograph

Edition

- Limited Edition of 200

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 



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About Graciela Rodo Boulanger

Born in La Paz, Bolivia in 1935, Boulanger's talents were nurtured by her mother, a concert pianist, and her father, a businessman and art connoisseur. At the age of 15, she gave her first recital and traveled to Santiago, Chile, where she spent a year studying at the National Conservatory of Music and at the Academy of Art. In 1952, Graciela traveled to Europe on her own for the first time and stayed in Vienna for a year before returning to Bolivia. At the age of 22, she moved to Buenos Aires where she resided for four years. Here, she decided to give up the piano as a career in order to devote her energies to painting. In 1961, she arrived in Paris and began work in the studio of Johnny Friedlander, considered one of the world's finest engravers.

In 1962, she married French diplomat Claude Boulanger and spent 18 months in the Middle East. Her first daughter, Karine, was born in Lebanon in 1963. When she returned to Paris, she continued painting and engraving. In 1966, her prints were first published by Abe Lublin. In 1968, she set up her own etching studio. In 1979, UNICEF designated her the official artist for the International Year of the Child. Two of her tapestries were presented in the hall of the UN General Assembly. The Museum of Modern Art of Latin America in Washington, DC, gave a retrospective of her oeuvre in 1983. In 1986, the Metropolitan Opera of New York commissioned her poster for Mozart's *The Magic Flute* to promote their 1987-88 season and her paintings were shown by the Art Gallery of Lincoln Center. In 1993, the World Federation of the UN Associations chose one of her paintings to illustrate both a stamp and a limited-edition print on endangered species.

Graciela Rodo Boulanger left Paris in 2005 and moved back to her home in La Paz, Bolivia, where her daughter Sandra and her grandchildren have been inspirations for her recent works. Works by Madame Boulanger have been acquired by the Museum of Modern Art of Latin America in Washington D.C., the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, the Museum of Modern Art in La Paz and The Modern Art Center in Zurich.

In addition to the more than 170 exhibitions held on all five continents over the years, she has held solo exhibitions at Gallery Four Forty Four in San Francisco in 1995, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003 and most recently a fifty year retrospective exhibition in October of 2006.

Stone Lithograph

This printing technique uses a planographic process in which prints are pulled on a special press from a flat stone or metal surface. The surface has been chemically treated so that ink sticks only to the design areas, and is repelled by the non-image areas. Lithography was invented in Germany in 1798. The early history of lithography is dominated by great French artists such as Daumier and Delacroix, and later by Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Picasso, Braque and Miro.

Based on the principle that oil and water repel, a Lithograph is created when an artist produces an oil-based or pen image on a stone or piece of metal. This surface is then moistened and covered with an oil-based ink. The resulting chemical reaction between the oil and water drives away the ink on the surface except where the drawing was first done. Fine quality paper is then placed against the surface and a lithographic press is used to create the print. Modern technology and processes have provided artists with many unique methods with which to create magnificent lithographs. In the 1890s color lithography became enormously popular with French artists, Toulouse-Lautrec most notably of all, and by 1900 the medium in both color and monotone was an accepted part of printmaking, although France and the US have used it more than other countries. George Bellows, Alphonse Mucha, Pablo Picasso, Jasper Johns, David Hockney and Robert Rauschenberg are a few of the artists who have produced most of their prints in the medium.

As a special form of lithography, the Serilith process is sometimes used. Serilith are mixed media original prints created in a process where an artist uses the lithograph and serigraph process. The separations for both processes are hand drawn by the artist. The serilith technique is used primarily to create fine art limited print editions.

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