

[L.Nicolas](#) by [Mary Faulconer](#)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Plants & Flowers



Item Number

3263025171

Retail Value

\$600

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Dimensions (As Shown)

20W x 27H Inches


50.8W x 68.58H cm

Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 250

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Mary Faulconer

Mary Faulconer studied under Alexey Brodovitch at the Philadelphia Museum School of Art where she taught in the Design Laboratory of the Museum School. She has in addition, served as Art Director of Mademoiselle Magazine and Harpers Bazaar. Her free lance work has appeared in Fortune, House and Garden, Life, Look, Seventeen, Town and Country and Vogue magazines.

Among her credits is a painting reproduced for UNICEF in 1972 and a commission to design six postage stamps for the United States. This issue, the Rose stamp, was the first United States multi-color stamp in booklet form. The Rose booklet design features both a red and apricot rose and is unique in that it is not a commemorative stamp but, in postal terms, is a special issue stamp. Unlike a commemorative stamp, which is available for only 2 months, the sale period for the Rose booklet will be at least one year. It was issued July 11, 1978 in Shreveport, Louisiana the home of the American Rose Society.

Mary Faulconer was an ideal candidate for designing a postage stamp. Characteristically, though her work is small scale and detailed, she captures the full beauty and charm of her subject. Postage stamps, match boxes, playing cards, and antique tins have all been faithfully reproduced life-size by Mary in her trompe l'oeil technique. Mary is an exquisite and exacting artist whose paintings are physically and emotionally precise and self-sufficient. She imparts to a simple vase of flowers on a table all the mystery, joy and charm that recalls the delicacy of a poem.

Mary Faulconer is an artist of real elegance in the finest American tradition. She combines early American primitivism, trompel'oeil and a magical super-realism, which in spite of her careful attention to detail, remains fresh and charming and not at all obsessive or rigid. She authentically render the softness of pansies, the delicate tint of egg shells, images which evokes happy nostalgia for idyllic springs and summers. Mary's work is luminous and peaceful, a world where a casual arrangement of lacy dried leaves or flowers touch upon perfection. Her paintings are clean and flawless gems, delicately and brilliantly realized.

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SPECIAL PROJECTS

Official Postmasters of America
Four Commerative Issue Flower Envelopes
For Franklin Mint - 1981

Lithograph on Paper

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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