

St. Kitts by Nicola Simbari

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Abstract

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Item Number

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Retail Value

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Dimensions (As Shown)

25.75W x 19.5H Inches


65.4W x 49.53H cm


Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 175

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Nicola Simbari

Nicola Simbari is considered by many to be Italy's most important living artist. A painter of semiabstract impressionist works; he is a stunning colorist who favors brilliant tones, richly layered with a palette knife. Like the great impressionists of a century ago, Simbari's paintings are drenched in light and energy, but provide new definition through his intensity of vision and dramatic technique.

Born in Calabria, Italy, Simbari was greatly impacted by the natural setting of his Mediterranean world: the wide sea, intense sky, and vivid flowers. As a young child, he moved with his family to Rome where his father worked as an architect to the Vatican. The

City's Renaissance masterpieces and the artistic treasures of the Sistine Chapel so moved Simbari that, before his 13th birthday, he decided to study art and enrolled at the Accademia delle Belle Arti.

At 22, he opened his first studio in Rome. Influenced by the sights and sounds of his childhood, Simbari's early works featured gypsies, cafe settings, fishing villages, and rustic scenes of the Italian countryside.

The youthful artist knew success almost immediately, and within months of a one-man show in London, he was awarded the coveted commission to paint murals for the Italian Pavilion at the 1958 World's Fair in Brussels. He solidified his place in the art world with his show "Le Cirque," which skillfully reproduced the same excitement on canvas as can be felt at an electrifying circus performance. The show was highly acclaimed in Paris, New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. "When I paint, I'm like a writer," Simbari states, "I must have something to say. My paintings are like entries in a diary because they are all reactions to things I have seen or felt."

Simbari holds a pivotal place in today's international art scene. His works can be found in numerous museums and private and corporate collections the world over.

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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