

Le Singe by Philippe Noyer (On Sale!)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Illustration



Item Number

4720639748

Retail Value

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Dimensions (As Shown)

22W x 29.5H Inches


55.88W x 74.93H cm


Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 220

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Philippe Noyer

Philippe Noyer (1917 - 1985) was born in Lyon (Central France). After a traditional course of study at the elite Ecole des Roches, Noyer enrolled in the Beaux Arts (Fine Arts) School of Lyon, before going to Paris to study at the Paul Colin School of Art and

experience the whirlwinds of Surrealism first hand.

Philippe Noyer started his painting career in 1943. That same year he met the famous Paris art dealer, Emmanuel David, who promoted world-known "School of Paris" painters from 1943 - 1950. David immediately put Noyer on contract with the prestigious Drouant-David Gallery of Paris. Parallel to his paintings, which at the time, represented owls wrapped in leaves and round-faced urchins with their pet animals, Philippe Noyer soon became one of the most sought after portraitist of Paris and London high society. The Gallery gave him his first one-man show in 1947, which immediately crowned him with instant success. Life was good.

While he was with the Drouant-David Gallery, Philippe Noyer says his stroke of luck for his success in the United States can be attributed to Mr. Robert Goldstein, the former President of the 20th Century Fox movie company. It was in 1949. The Gallery gave twenty of Philippe Noyer's paintings on consignment to an American art dealer who had agreed to organize an exhibition of them in the United States. The American dealer, however, was a heavy gambler and one night, before the show, he suffered unprecedented losses and was forced to sell off the paintings without a profit. The buyer turned out to be Robert Goldstein who was so pleased with his purchase that he distributed the art to his friends, including the legendary Samuel Goldwyn, who, in turn, made Philippe Noyer's name known on the West Coast.

A deep and long lasting friendship between Noyer and Goldstein ensued. In 1960 when, like it happens to all artists, Philippe Noyer was in a difficult financial situation, Goldstein jettied Philippe from Paris to London and organized an auction at which all of Noyer's current paintings were sold to Goldstein's friends.

In those following years, Philippe was commissioned to paint the portraits of dozens of personalities including Elizabeth Taylor, Dinah Shore, Jean Wallace and the children of actor Alan Ladd and producer Alan Lerner. As his art matured, however, he put aside this career as a portraitist to devote himself entirely to the delicate, sophisticated, slim, long-limbed ladies who had progressively replaced children as his favorite subjects.

From the leaf-clad owls of his first paintings to the litho maidens and languorous cheetahs of his later works, Philippe Noyer's art has always remained quite unique. The elements Philippe uses in his paintings - the women, the monuments, the animals and the flowers - come alive under the brush which translates them in strictly realist terms in compositions that are the fruits of his fantasy and intellectual or literary reminiscences. Like in the paintings of any artist, there are pet themes and objects that recur like good luck charms - eggs, hats, shoes - but as the artist himself warns, it would be vain to seek in them some hidden symbolism or draw oversimplified Freudian conclusions.

Thirteen years of careful personal research brought Philippe Noyer to the technique which gives his paintings their very special transparency and light. The technique, which Philippe Noyer finished perfecting in 1956 eliminates the use of white in favor of pure colors which give the rocks their roughness, bring alive the subtle glow of a seashell and give the subjects' skins a peach-like softness one can feel without touching.

Noyer's honesty with himself, his inborn draftsmanship and eye for color have earned Philippe Noyer a worldwide reputation. He married Nora Kern in 1939 and fathered four children: Denis Paul, Corinne, Laurence and Ariel. Noyer died circa 1980. Currently, more than 2,000 of his oil paintings and watercolors are in museums, collections and private collections.

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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