

[Audierne](#) by [Marcel Mouly](#)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Boats



Item Number

5265645198

Retail Value

\$4,000

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Dimensions (As Shown)

29W x 20H Inches


73.66W x 50.8H cm


Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 275

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Marcel Mouly

Marcel Mouly was born in Paris, France on February 6, 1918. His interest in art developed in grade school. A precocious, mischievous child, Mouly was first sent to a drawing class as a form of punishment. However, Mouly loved learning to draw and exhibited a natural artistic talent, though his path to a career as an artist proved not to be a linear one.

In 1935, while still employed by a wine merchant, Mouly began taking night classes in the arts at the Cours Montparnasse 80, where he remained until his military duty began in 1938. After France fell to Germany in June 1940, Mouly became a civilian again and eked out a living during these difficult economic times working odd jobs. Mouly befriended a fellow artist named Bernard la Fourcade and the two of them established a studio in Auteuil. During a trip to Normandy in 1942, the pair was stopped by German officials and they were questioned for their lack of travel documentation. Mouly and la Fourcade were arrested shortly after their return to Paris and imprisoned as spies. During his solitary confinement, Mouly constantly thought about art and formed the belief that when he became free, he would become a famous artist.

Shortly after being released from prison, Mouly, along with fellow artist Édouard Pignon, rented the Boulogne studio of famed modernist sculptor Jacques Lipchitz (1891-1973). Mouly learned a great deal from Lipchitz, particularly about the style of Cubism. In 1935, after studying painting at the French Academies, he began to show his work publicly. In 1945 he participated at the Salon d'Automne, took part in the open art forums of the Ecole de Boulogne, and studied with Leger, Pignon, and Bertin. The following year, he exhibited at the Salon du Mai. By the mid-1940s, Mouly's art began to gain notoriety from his peers and collectors and his first one-man exhibition was held in 1949 at the Librairie Bergamesque.

Mouly continued to develop his technique, expertly incorporating his formal art education and the influences of such masters as Picasso and Matisse to create his own unique, trademark style. While one may note his use of the deep, bold colors typically used in Matisse's Fauvist works, or the Cubism of Picasso, Mouly's style is uniquely and unmistakably his own. By the 1950s Mouly was already looked upon as an emerging brilliant and skilled young painter. In the mid 1950s, he began to work in the printmaking medium of lithography and he was soon recognized as a master printmaker, as well.

Marcel Mouly's work has been exhibited throughout the world and is included in the permanent collections of more than twenty museums, such as the Museum of Modern Art in Paris, the Museum of Modern Art in Japan, the Museum of Geneva, the Museum of Modern Art in Helsinki, and Paris Bibliothèque Nationale. He has also been the subject of numerous books and has been recognized by such honors as the Chevalier de L'Ordre des Arts et Lettres (1957) and the Premier Prix de Lithographie (1973).

Though Marcel Mouly died on January 7, 2008, weeks shy of his 90th birthday, his art and his legacy live on. His art is pure and direct in its message, art historian and writer Joseph Jacobs said. It is an art about beauty and life, an art about the more familiar and comfortable world we live in and know. In this respect, Mouly is quintessentially French, his roots firmly planted in the School of Paris. Picasso, Braque, Matisse, Rouault, Vlaminck, Chagall, Vuillard, and Dufy are his patrimony, and he has carried their mantle with unflinching dedication.

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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