

[Untitled II](#) by [Jim Jonson](#) (On Sale!)

Lithograph on Paper - Main Subject: Abstract

**Item Number**

9008882630

Retail Value

\$250

ArtRev.com Price

\$120

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Dimensions (As Shown)

24W x 18.25H Inches

60.96W x 46.36H cm

Medium

Lithograph on Paper

Edition

- Limited Edition of 300

- Hand-Signed 

- Numbered 

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About Jim Jonson

Jim Jonson is concerned with the kinetics of a sports event. He responds personally to the energy and the power generated by finely conditioned athletes, having been one himself. But above all he attempts to communicate the phenomenon of motion. He does not try to freeze these moments as a high-speed photograph would, but by skillfully employing the multiple image, Jonson dramatically enhances the narrative power of his paintings. You not only see where something is, but also where it was and the direction in which it's going.

In addition to the phenomenon of motion, Jonson is also concerned with the specific instant: the point in the action which most dramatically highlights the athlete extending himself almost beyond his limits. It could be the face of a long distance runner straining to reach the finish line, the arched back of a pole vaulter as he barely clears the bar, or the stretched legs and clawing hands of the high hurdler. For all their apparent spontaneity, which sometimes borders on the abstract, however, his paintings

adhere to the classical tenets of drawing, composition, value, and color harmony.

Jonson's first illustration assignments were for magazines and advertising agencies in California where more and more art directors who were beginning to tire of the photographic realism then predominant responded to Jonson's painterly approach.

Since then he has moved to the East Coast and his work appears regularly in Sports Illustrated, Ski, Time-Life Books, and other nationally famous publications.

He has also exhibited in many museums including the National Art Museum of Sport Competition where he was recently a top award winner.

Album covers for Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole and the Beatles, the "Ben-Hur" movie ad campaign, illustrations for Sports Illustrated, Look and The Saturday Evening Post were only part of Marietta artist James D. Johnson's lifetime work. Mr. Johnson, 78, was a nationally recognized artist who painted under the name Jim Jonson.

Mr. Johnson passed away on March 19, 1999.

ONE-MAN SHOWS

SB. Parsons, Los Angeles
Cushing Gallery, Dallas
Madison Park Gallery, New York City
Abercrombie & Fitch, New York City
Abercrombie & Fitch, Chicago

GROUP SHOWS

Denver Art Museum
Los Angeles County Art Museum
Oklahoma Art Center
Frye Museum (Seattle)
Orange County Museum
University of Arizona

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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