PICASSO ON PAPER

1 April 2020

Eames Fine Art

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Document: Picasso on Paper

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Eames Fine Art Ltd

Gallery: 58 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3UD

Studio: Ground Floor, 54-58 Tanner Street, London SE1 3PH **Print Room:** 159 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3UW

T: 020 7407 6561 | 020 7407 1025 | 020 7043 5751 **M:** 07970 105 508 | 07884 433 578

 $\textbf{E:} \ rebecca@eamesfineart.com \ | \ vincent@eamesfineart.com \ \ \textbf{W:} \ eamesfineart.com$



EXHIBITION POSTERS | INTRODUCTION

Picasso began creating exhibition posters in 1948, when he was in his late sixties, having already turned his hand to myriad artforms in his long career to date. Over the following twenty years, he produced in the region of 70 poster designs in total.

In Vallauris, the town near the Cote d'Azur where he lived from 1948-54, Picasso made posters and accompanying graphics for the annual Ceramics exhibitions where he showed his own work made in local potteries. Here, he worked with the printmaker Hidalgo Arnéra, who introduced him to the technique of linocutting and helped him to print his posters using a hand press. Using motifs from ancient mythology printed in earthy colours, Picasso intended to convey a sense of a simple, happy life in harmony with nature. The posters Picasso printed in Vallauris helped boost the sales of his ceramics and small editions and in turn helped the town's struggling economy after the war.

Although he made many linocuts, the majority of Picasso's posters are lithographs. Picasso's designs were of course unconventional, in handling of both image and text, making them highly desirable collectors' items today. We have one original lithographic poster for sale here, along with a selection of offset lithographic posters, featuring stunning reproductions of Picasso's works, from galleries, museum collections, Vallauris and the famed lithographic print workshop in Paris, Atelier Mourlot. Lithography was enjoying a resurgence as a medium for artists in post war France and England and Picasso was key in experimenting with this avenue of expression, along with exponents such as Chagall, Miró, Léger and Braque.

The original Galerie Louise Leiris lithograph, designed by Picasso for a show of his paintings in 1957 is an example of a poster made by the artist for smaller cultural institutions he chose to support and in this case, with whom he was closely linked. The Galerie Louise Leiris was Picasso's gallery and dealer in Paris for many years, originally run by the artist's friend, Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler, before he haned over to his daughter Louise in 1940. We have a few beautiful examples of offset lithographic posters in our selection from solo Picasso exhibitions of prints, drawings and paintings that the gallery produced.

The selection of posters of Atelier Mourlot exhibitions of lithographs by Picasso from the Mourlot collection also attest to fascinating aspects of Picasso's life and career, one example being *Flying Dove in Rainbow*. The dove became an important symbol for Picasso in his poster art from the late 1940s until the early 1960s. Commissioned by the French Communist party in 1948 to design a poster for the first World Peace Congress in Paris, Picasso went on to create a whole series of 'Peace Posters' which were published internationally for Peace Congress events across several European countries.

Some of the museum posters in this show are of great interest as collectors' items for their wider historical significance. *The Berlin Nationalgalerie* poster, for example, bold in prominent black, yellow and red, features Picasso's *Buste de Femme (Jacqueline)* from 1959. This painting was a significant acquisition by the museum, the first to enter their collection after World War Two and this poster celebrates the acquisition and marks this moment in history.

Like this poster, many of the offset lithographs in this selection attest to Picasso's prodigious output as an artist across all media and serve as records of historic moments, exhibitions and shows that cumulatively added to the legacy that is Picasso today. After, all the fact that Picasso himself devoted his time and effort to the poster medium indicates that this a body of work worthy of attention and admiration and would make a fine addition to any private collection.

Grace Hailstone



PABLO PICASSO

A RETROSPECTIVE

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK, MAY 22-SEPTEMBER 16, 1980

Pablo Picasso: A Retrospective

Date: 1980

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 560 x 940 mm

Price: £350

Exhibition poster for the landmark retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art, New York in 1980. This exhibition marked the first time in MoMA's history that the entire 53rd Street headquarters was dedicated to the works of a single artist. The museum loaned some 230 works from its permanent collection to other institutions in order to make room in the galleries for nearly 1,000 paintings, sculptures, drawings, collages, prints, ceramics, and costume and theatre designs drawn from 152 public and private collections all over the world. This poster is in excellent condition.

THE TATE GALLERY-



MODERN MASTERS

on permanent display

Including works by: Francis Bacon, Max Beckmann, Georges Braque, Robert Delaunay, André Derain, Juan Gris, Oskar Kokoschka, Henri Laurens, Fernand Léger, Henri Matisse, Piet Mondrian, Jackson Pollock. Monday-Saturday 10-5.50 Sunday 2-5.50 Recorded information 01-821 7128 Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SWIP 4RG

ADMISSION FREE

Tate Gallery: Modern Masters

Date: c.1985

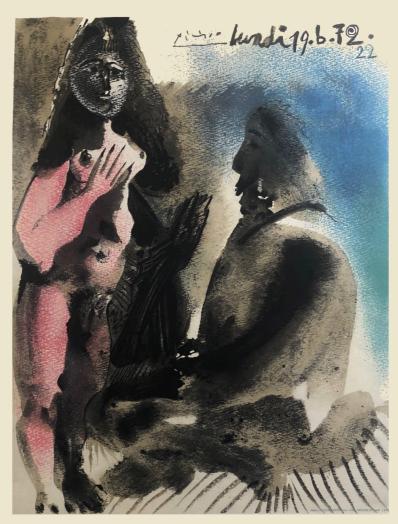
Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 510 x 760 mm

Price: £200

Poster to advertise the 'Modern Masters' permanent collection display at the Tate Gallery, dating from the mid 1980s. Featured here is Picasso's 'Seated Woman in a Chemise' oil on canvas, Paris,1923, which remains today part of the Tate collection. This poster is in excellent condition and the text is printed with silver iridescent ink. Printed by the Hillingdon Press, Middlesex.

GALERIE LOUISE LEIRIS

47 RUE DE MONCEAU - PARIS-VIII



PICASSO

172 DESSINS RÉCENTS

DU 1et DÉCEMBRE 1972 AU 13 JANVIER 1973

Picasso: 172 Dessins Récents

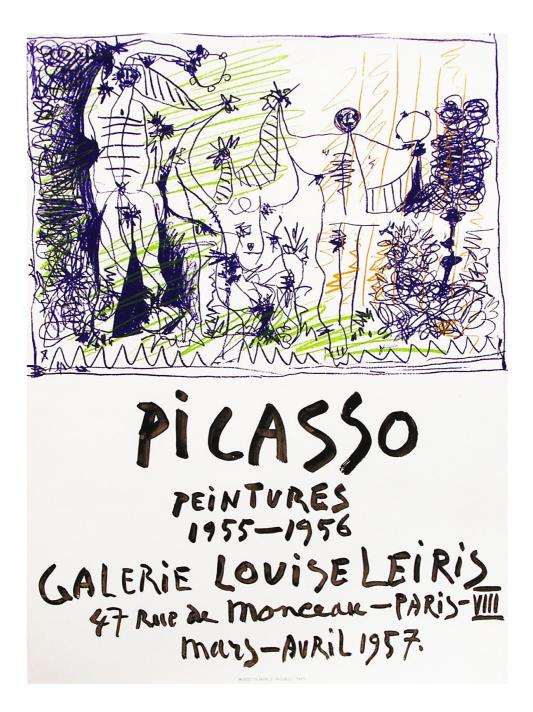
Date: 1972-3

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 560 x 940 mm

Price: £800

Exhibition poster for '172 Dessins Récents' (172 Recent Drawings) at Galerie Louise Leiris, 47 Rue de Monceau, Paris. Established in 1920 by Daniel Kahnweiler, the Galerie Louise Leiris represented Picasso for decades. It was turned over to Kahneweiler's daughter, Louise Leiris, in 1940, who also dealt in works by Salvador Dali. Printed by Mourlot, Paris.

This poster is in good condition.



Picasso: Peintures 1955- 1956

Date: 1957

Original lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 540 x 730 mm

Price: £4,500

An original lithographic poster designed by Picasso, for an exhibition of the artist's paintings dating from 1955-1956, at the Galerie Louise Leiris in Paris, 1957. This is a rare poster, visibly showing Picasso's painterly handwriting and has a playful feel to it. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.

GALERIE LOUISE LEIRIS

47 RUE DE MONCEAU - PARIS-VIII



PICASSO

156 GRAVURES RÉCENTES

DU 24 JANVIER AU 24 FÉVRIER 1973

Picasso: 156 Gravures Récentes

Date: 1973

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 470 x 710 mm

Price: £500

Exhibition poster for the Galerie Louise Leiris, Paris, of 156 recent engravings by Picasso. The image depicted is an untitled engraving from the series from 'Suite 156', an entire series of 156 prints completed by Picasso in 1971-3, shortly before his death in 1973. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in good condition, apart from a minor tear to the edge, not affecting the image.

Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz Staatliche Museen NATIONAL-Galerie Berlin in der Orangerie des Schlosses Charlottenburg Mo, Mi, Do, Fr, Sa 9-17 h So 10-17 h Di geschlossen Eintritt frei



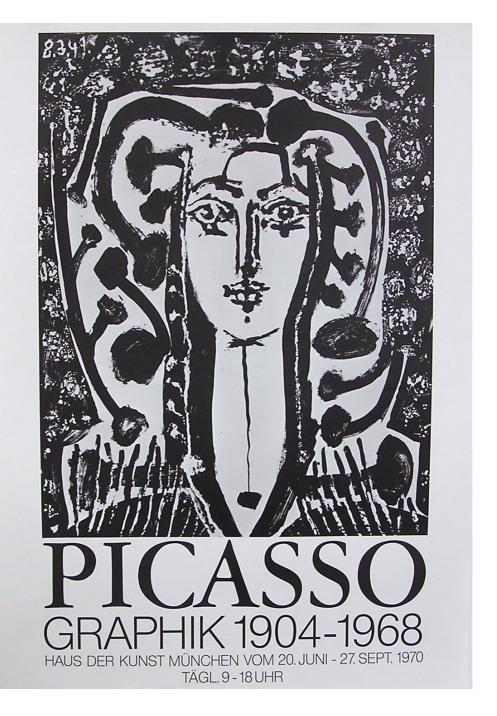
Picasso: Nationalgalerie Berlin

Date: c.1963

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 590 x 840 mm

Price: £3,000

Rare offset lithograph poster in vivid colours from the 1960s advertising the Nationalgalerie Berlin's permanent collection. The poster refers to the Orangerie of the Royal Palace at Berlin-Charlottenburg. During the Cold War, Germany was divided and the building of the Nationalgalerie was located in the East of Berlin. Those artworks of the Nationalgalerie which were in the Western part of the city, moved to Charlottenburg, and the collection's presentation in the Orangerie was opened on December 06, 1961. The artwork reproduced on this poster is 'Buste de Femme (Jacqueline)' painted by Picasso in Vauvenargues in 1959. This painting was transported to Berlin in April 1963 and was acquired by the Nationalgalerie. This poster helps to celebrate this significant acquisition in post-war Germany, after much art was looted by the Nazi regime. This poster is in excellent condition.



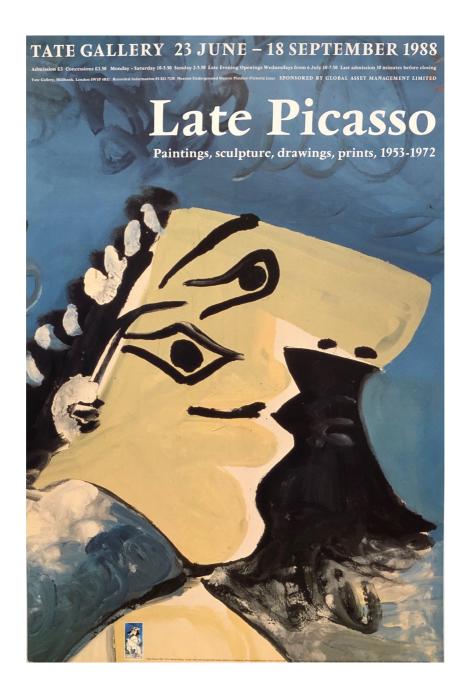
Picasso: Graphik 1904- 1968

Date: 1970

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 595 x 835 mm

Price: £700

This striking monochrome poster dates from 1970, advertising the Haus der Kunst exhibition of graphic works by Picasso in Munich. Featuring the original lithograph 'Buste Modern Style' by the artist from 1949. This poster is in excellent condition.



Late Picasso, Paintings, Sculptures, Drawings

Date: 1988

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 510 x 760 mm

Price: £300

An exhibition poster from the Tate Gallery's 1988 'Late Picasso: Paintings, Sculptures, Drawings, Prints 1953- 1972' show. Featuring a detail of Picasso's painting 'Woman Pissing' (oil on canvas) from 1965. This poster is in excellent condition. Printed by the Hillingdon Press, Middlesex.



PICASSO

KNOEDLER, 85^{BIS} RUE DU F^G ST-HONORE - PARIS 26 OCTOBRE - 30 NOVEMBRE 1971

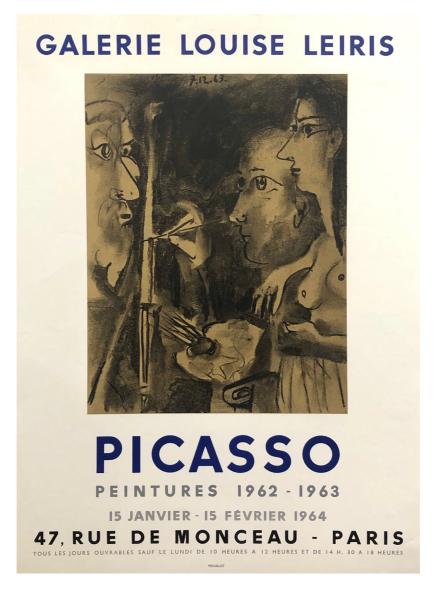
Picasso

Date: 1971

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 505 x 760 mm

Price: £350

An exhibition poster from the Knoedler Gallery's Picasso show in Paris, 1971. Featuring the work 'Harlequin with a Mirror' 1923. Initially intended as a self-portrait, 'Harlequin with a Mirror' combines three characters from the circus and the 'Commedia dell'arte' that held a strong fascination for Picasso, and with which he identified: the two-cornered hat is a reference to a Harlequin, the clothes are those of an acrobat, while Pierrot's face, turned into a mask, conceals the artist's identity. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



Picasso Peintures 1962 - 1963

Date: 1964

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 465 x 640 mm

Price: £700

An exhibition poster from the Galerie Louise Leiris, Paris, show in 1964 featuring recent paintings by the artist from 1962-1963. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in good condition, apart from a small tear to the edge, not affecting the image.



DIXIÈME BIENNALE INTERNATIONALE D'ART

MENTON

1" JUILLET - 30 SEPTEMBRE 1974

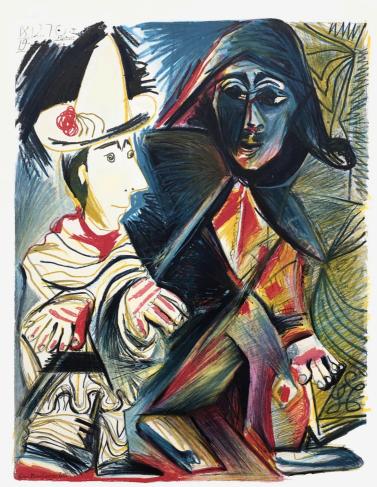
Picasso: Deuxième Biennale Internationale d'Art Menton

Date: 1974

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 485 x 740 mm

Price: £500

This poster was created in 1974 for the 10th International Art Biennial at Menton. Featuring the artist's painting 'Femme Nue au Bonnet Turc,'1955. Printed from a lithograph by Henri Deschamps after Picasso. Printed by Henri Deschamps and Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



PICASSO

MUSÉE DYNAMIQUE-DAKAR

6 AVRIL - 6 MAI 1972

CORNICHE OUEST - OUVERT TOUS LES JOURS DE 9 H A 12 H ET DE 14 H A 19 H

Picasso: Musée Dynamique

Date: 1972

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 540 x 770 mm

Price: £500

This stunning poster was created for an exhibition of the artist's work at the Musée Dynamique in Dakar, Senegal. The museum, inaugurated by President Senghor and André Malraux in 1966, featured collections of works important to the history and culture of Senegal, as well as artists like Pablo Picasso, Pierre Soulages and Marc Chagall. The museum no longer functions as it once did, and has since suffered a controversial closure. Today, the museum is operated as an arts space by the artistic community. Printed from a lithograph by Henri Deschamps after Picasso. Printed by Henri Deschamps and Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.

GALERIE "65" CANNES

LA CROISETTE - TÉL.: 38-15-33





(DE 1905 A NOS JOURS)

EXPOSITION DU 9 AVRIL AU 12 MAI 1966

LA GALERIE EST OUVERTE TOUS LES JOURS DE 10 HEURES A 23 HEURES

IMP. DEVAYE, CANNE

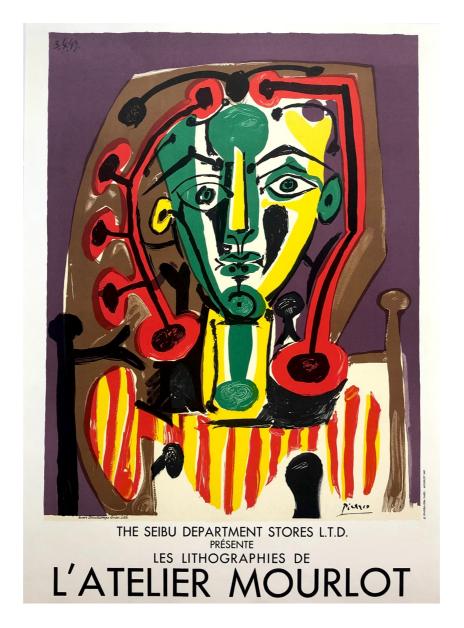
Picasso: Gravures Rares

Date: 1966

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 530 x 760 mm

Price: £800

An exhibition poster created for the Picasso 'Rare Engravings' show at Galerie 65 Cannes, France. Featuring one of Picasso's earliest etchings, 'The Frugal Repast' from 1904 (printed later in 1913), which marked the beginning of Picasso's prodigious career as a printmaker, and conveys the typical atmosphere of his work at the time, during his famous 'Blue Period'. This work shows Picasso's natural skill as a printmaker, despite having no formal training in etching. Printed by the Imprimerie Devaye, Cannes. This poster is in excellent condition.



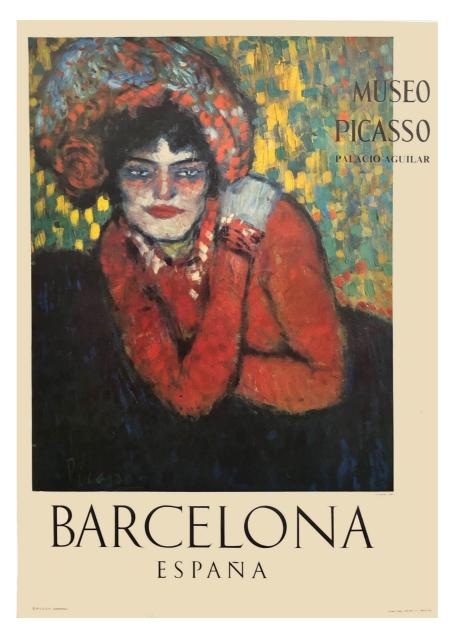
Les Lithographies de L'Atelier Mourlot

Date: 1984

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 520 x 725 mm

Price: £700

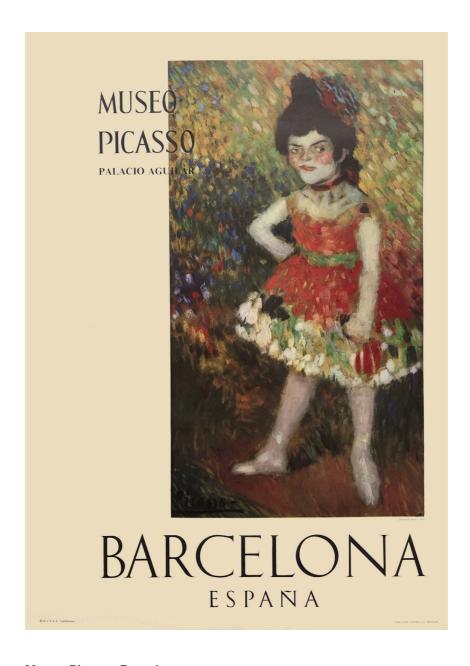
An exhibition poster created for an exhibition of '50 Years of Lithography' at the Atelier Mourlot' at the Seibu Department store in Tokyo, Japan. This is one of a collection of lithographs including works by Matisse, Miro, Leger and Braque. Printed from a lithograph by Henri Deschamps after Picasso. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



Date: 1966

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 545 x 760 mm

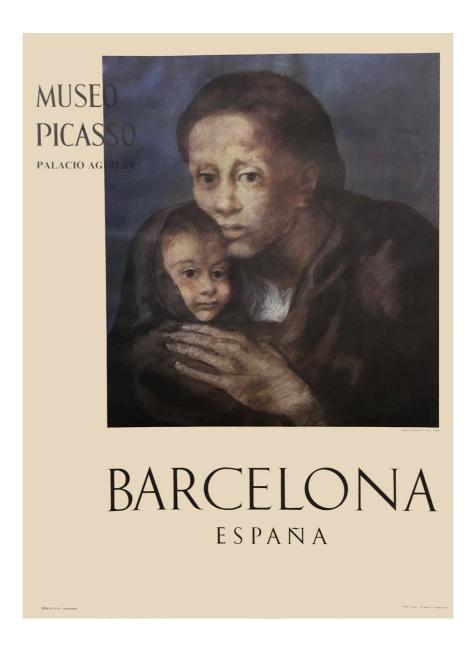
Price: £350



Date: 1966

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 545 x 760 mm

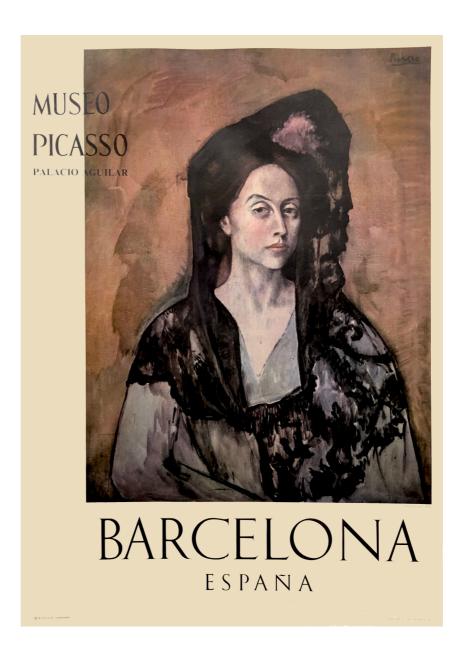
Price: £350



Date: 1966

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 545 x 760 mm

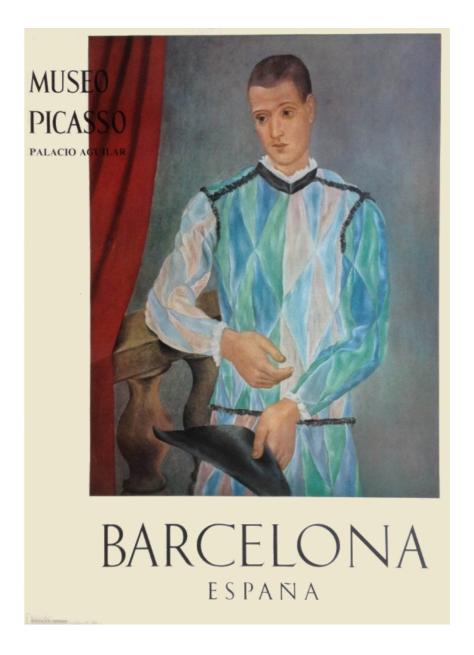
Price: £350



Date: 1966

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 545 x 760 mm

Price: £350



Date: 1966

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 545 x 760 mm

Price: £350



EXPOSITION de LITHOGRAPHIES

PICASSO COLLECTION MOURLOT

Mourlot imp.

Exposition de Lithographies Picasso

Date: 1988

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 540 x 760 mm

Price: £350

An offset lithograph poster to advertise an exhibition of lithographs by Picasso from the Atelier Mourlot. From a series of posters in the same design exemplifying the breadth of Picasso's style using the medium of lithography, while working in the celebrated Mourlot print studios in Paris. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



EXPOSITION de LITHOGRAPHIES

PICASSO

COLLECTION MOURLOT

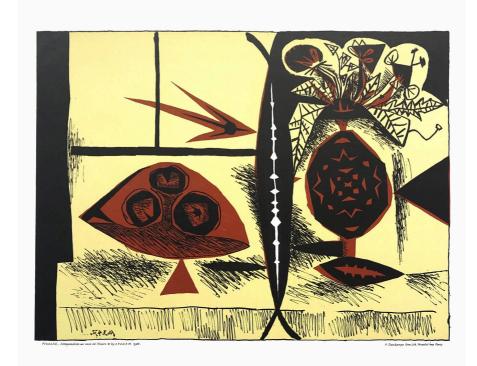
Expositions de Lithographies Picasso

Date: 1988

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 540 x 760 mm

Price: £350

An offset lithograph poster to advertise an exhibition of lithographs by Picasso from the Atelier Mourlot. From a series of posters in the same design exemplifying the breadth of Picasso's style using the medium of lithography, while working in the celebrated Mourlot print studios in Paris. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



EXPOSITION de LITHOGRAPHIES

PICASSO COLLECTION MOURLOT

Mourlot imp

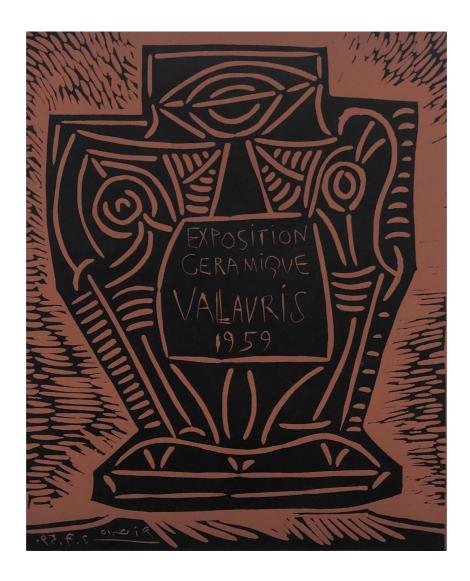
Expositions de Lithographies Picasso

Date: 1988

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 540 x 760 mm

Price: £350

An offset lithograph poster to advertise an exhibition of lithographs by Picasso from the Atelier Mourlot. From a series of posters in the same design exemplifying the breadth of Picasso's style using the medium of lithography, while working in the celebrated Mourlot print studios in Paris, established in 1852. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



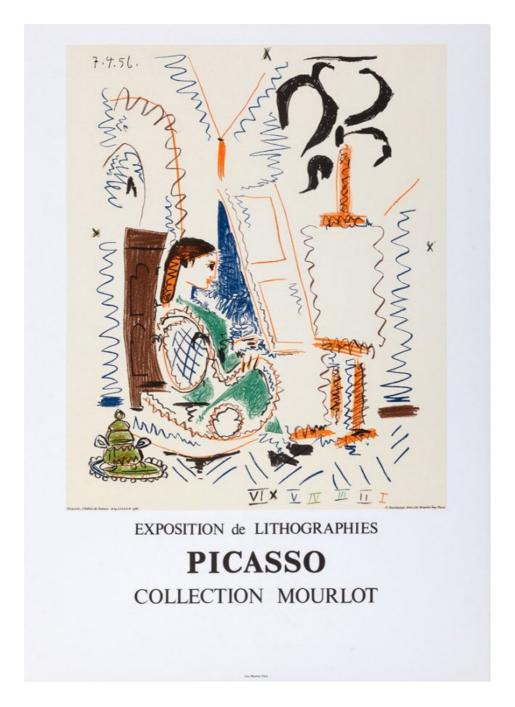
Exposition Ceramique Vallauris

Date: 1959

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 330 x 550 mm Image size: 280 x 340 mm

Price: £400

An original linocut printed in two colours, used as a poster to advertise the Ceramic Exhibition at Vallauris in 1959. Picasso made many poster graphics to accompany the ceramic exhibitions when he lived in Vallarauris, a town famous for its ceramic output in the Cote d'Azur. Here, he produced and showed his own ceramic work from 1948- 1955. This linoleum block was re-carved at 42% of the original size of a larger print, along with an entire series of linocuts around this time. This poster is a linocut on an off white paper, signed and dated in the block, in reverse.



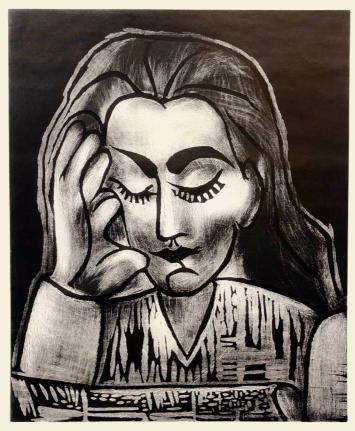
Exposition de Lithographies Picasso

Date: 1988

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 540 x 760 mm

Price: £350

An offset lithograph poster to advertise an exhibition of lithographs by Picasso from the Atelier Mourlot. From a series of posters in the same design exemplifying the breadth of Picasso's style using the medium of lithography, while working in the celebrated Mourlot print studios in Paris, established in 1852. Printed by Mourlot, Paris. This poster is in excellent condition.



rétrospective de l'œuvre gravé de

PICASSO

1947 - 1968

Exposition Eté 1982

GALERIE HERBAGE

17, rue des Etats-Unis, Cannes - Tél (93) 39.19.15

MPRIMIX.P CHAVE

Picasso Print Retrospective 1947 - 1968

Date: 1982

Offset lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 440 x 700 mm

Price: £500

An offset lithograph poster to advertise a retrospective of Picasso's print work dating from 1947- 1968 at the Galerie Herbage, Cannes. Featuring one of the artist's textural portrait linocuts, 'Jacqueline Reading' 1962, which explored a tonal technique by scratching the surface of the lino with a metal comb as well as carving. Printed by the Imprimerie P. Chavé, Cannes, France. This poster is in excellent condition.

PICASSO LINOGRAVURES | INTRODUCTION

Of the thousands of prints that he created in his lifetime, Picasso is known to have made approximately 150 linocuts. 100 of those were made between 1959- 1962, during the time he was living in Vauvenargues and Mougins in the South of France. This particular collection of 45 linocuts were printed from blocks that were recarved at 42% of the size of Picasso's larger works from the late 1950s and early 60s. This extraordinary achievement was overseen by Picasso in collaboration with the Galerie Louise Leiris, Paris and the end result was entitled *Picasso Linogravures*, published in 1962 by Éditions Cercle d'Art in Paris and Harry Abrams in New York. Showcasing the artist's inventiveness with the medium, from line drawing and complex multicolour prints to textural marks never before seen in lino printing, Picasso Linogravure helped to elevate the humble status of the linocut as an art form.

One of the highlights in the series, *Portrait of a Woman, after Lucas Cranach*, is particularly important in the development of Picasso's approach to the medium. Picasso was known for re-imagining the work of the Old Masters and was often inspired simply by reproductions of works in books. In this case, his dealer Henry Kahnweiler had sent him a postcard of Cranach the Younger's *Portrait of a Woman*, and this provided the inspiration for this print. Picasso first attempted this print in two colours but was determined to create a more complex and colourful image and eventually resorted to five different blocks printed in black, red, green, yellow, brown, and blue. This was Picasso's most ambitious linocut to date and he created multiple variations and proofs to get to the desired result.

Picasso was keen to print in colours, enjoying the expressiveness and ease of carving lino, as well as the resulting solid areas of dense, flat colour. However, the process of colour printing with lino in layers was laborious, requiring a new block to be carved for each colour and each block to be perfectly registered for each layer. Picasso soon abandoned this way of working and invented 'reduction printing' or the 'suicide cut '- a method still used by artists today as a more efficient way of printing many colours successively from one block. There is no room for error with this method, as there is only one opportunity to print each layer from the block before it is cut away, however it eliminates the need to register each part of the design with a different block for each colour.

The subject matter in this series is typical of Picasso's personal mythology including bullfights, nudes, musicians and bacchanalia. Links between the themes in these prints can be made with Picasso's earlier works such as the *Antibes Murals* of 1946 however, they are uniquely portrayed here in this wonderful form of printmaking which Picasso made his own, in a relatively short period of furious experimentation and innovation. Compared with the several thousand etchings or over eight hundred lithographs Picasso produced, his linocuts occupy a relatively small place in his graphic canon but the impact of this rarer linocut work and its influence on printmakers is still widely felt today. Picasso's larger linocuts currently sell from £6,000 to over £100,000, making these smaller versions an affordable way of enjoying Picasso's astonishing ingenuity with printmaking in your own home.

Grace Hailstone



Bacchanal with Four Clouds

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 270 mm Framed: 475 x 420 x 35 mm

Price: £650 framed



Two Satyrs with a Goat

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 270 mm Framed: 475 x 420 x 35 mm

Price: £650 framed

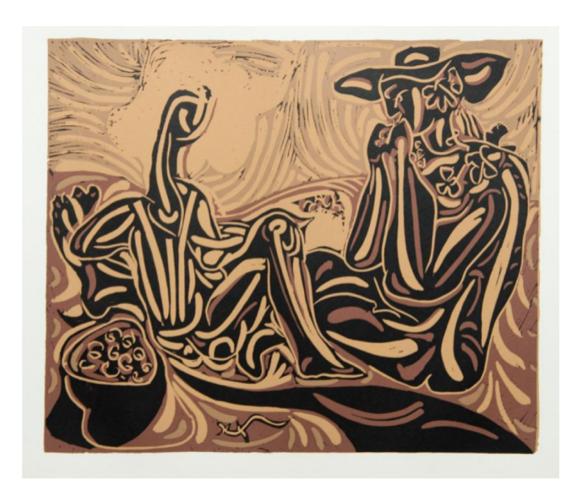


Dancers and a Musician

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 265 mm Framed: 475 x 420 x 35 mm

Price: £500 framed

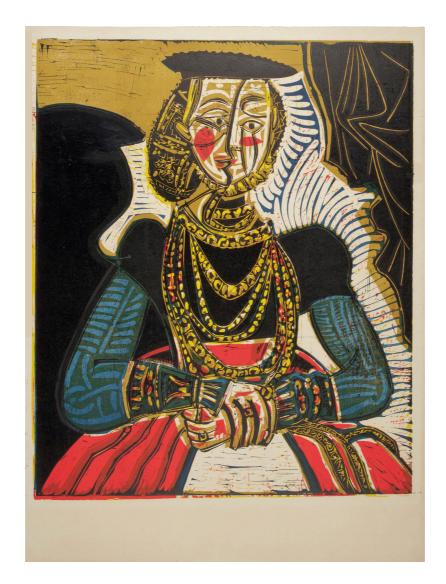


After the Vintage

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 320 x 270 mm Framed: 475 x 420 x 35 mm

Price: £550 framed



Portrait of a Woman after Cranach the Younger

Date: 1962

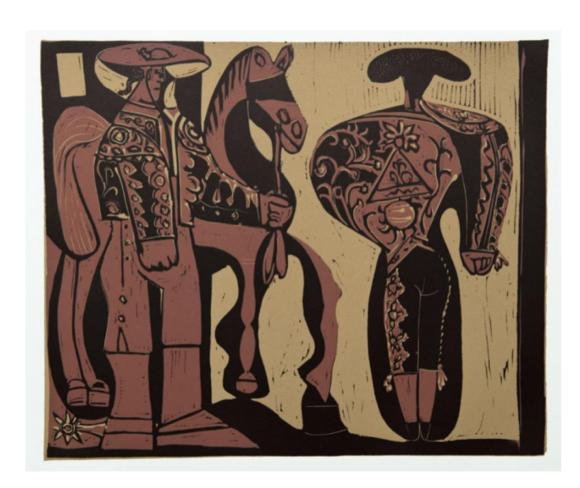
Linocut | Unsigned
Paper size: 385 x 315 mm
Image size: 220 x 270 mm
Price: £700



Female Head

Date: 1962

Linocut | Unsigned
Paper size: 385 x 315 mm
Image size: 225 x 270 mm
Price: £700



Picador and Matador

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 270 mm Price: £450



Picador and Bull

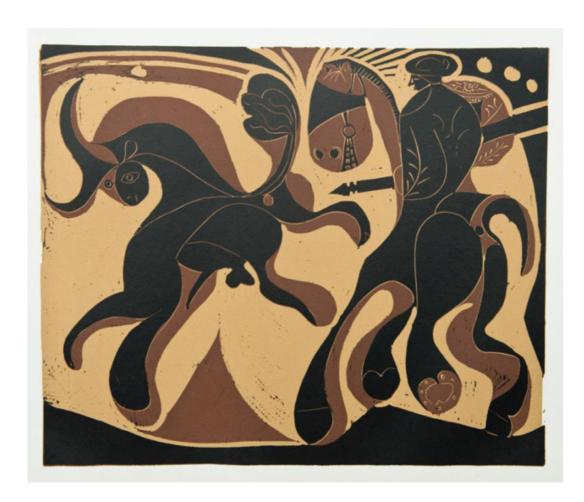
Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 270 mm Price: £450



Picador Goading Bull with Matador Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

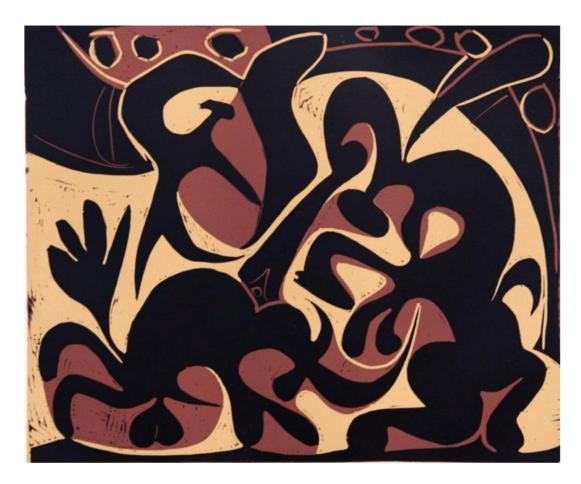
Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 270 mm Price: £550 framed



Picador and Fleeing Bull

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 325 x 270 mm Price: £650



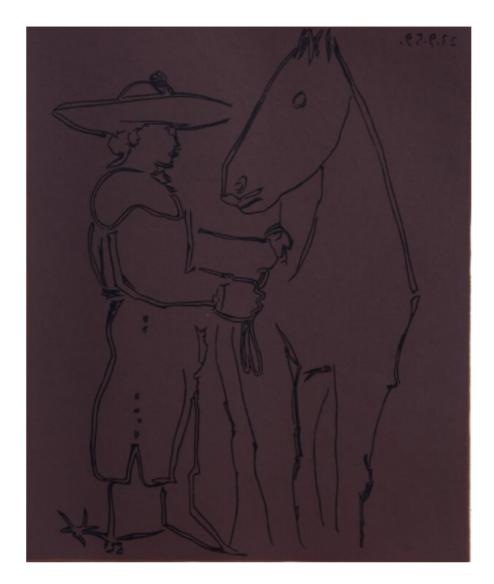
Picador Goading Bull with Matador

Date: 1962

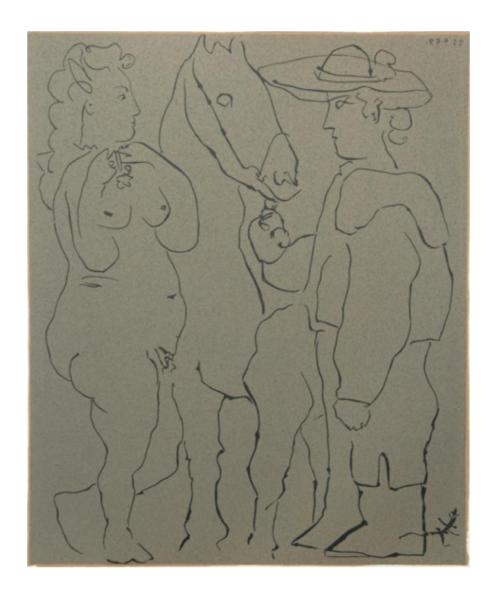


Picador Goading Bull

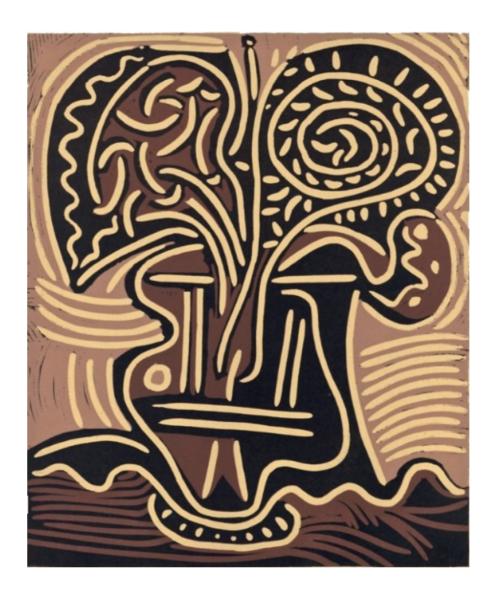
Date: 1962



Picador and Horse



Picador, Woman and Horse



Flower Vase

Date: 1962



Two Women

Date: 1962



Reclining Woman with Picador and Guitar



Guitar Player and Seated Woman



Reclining Woman and Guitar Player



Reclining Woman and Picador Eating Grapes



Picador Goading Bull (White)



Female Profile

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 315 x 385 mm Image size: 220 x 270 mm

Price: £700



Jacqueline

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 315 x 385 mm Image size: 220 x 270 mm Price: £700



Two Women at the Window

Date: 1962

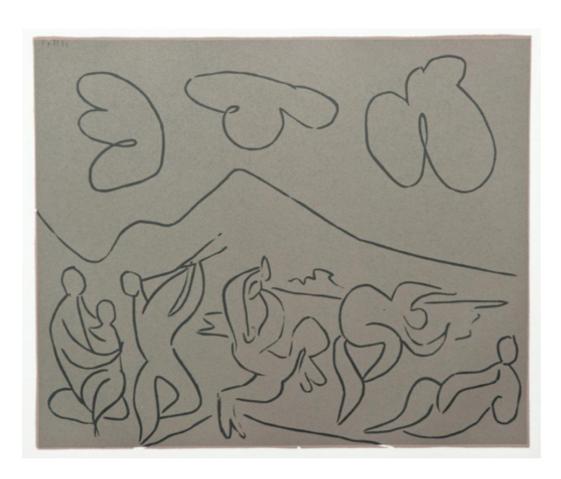


Women at the Window

Date: 1962

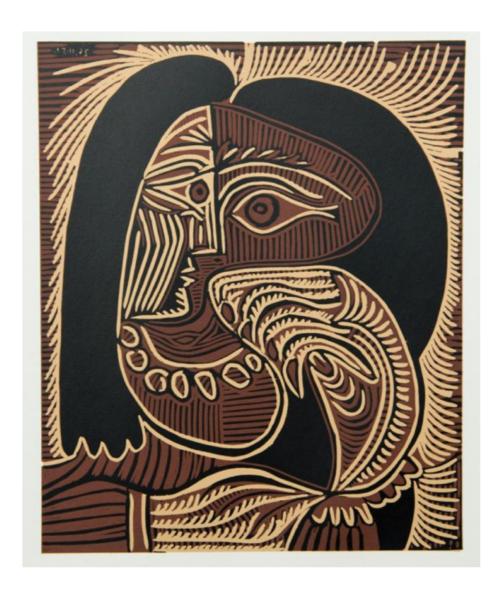


Three Women



Bacchanal with Mother and Child

Date: 1962



Female Head with Necklace

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 315 x 385 mm Image size: 225 x 270 mm Price: £450



Mother and Child with Dancer and Flute Player

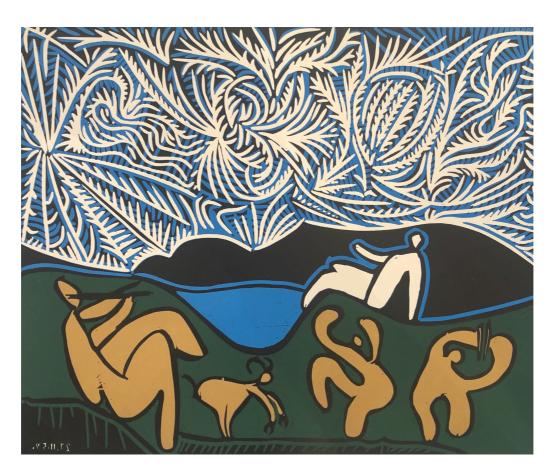
Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 315 x 385 mm Image size: 225 x 270 mm Price: £350



Bacchanal with Pair of Lovers

Date: 1962



Bacchanal with Young Goat and Onlooker

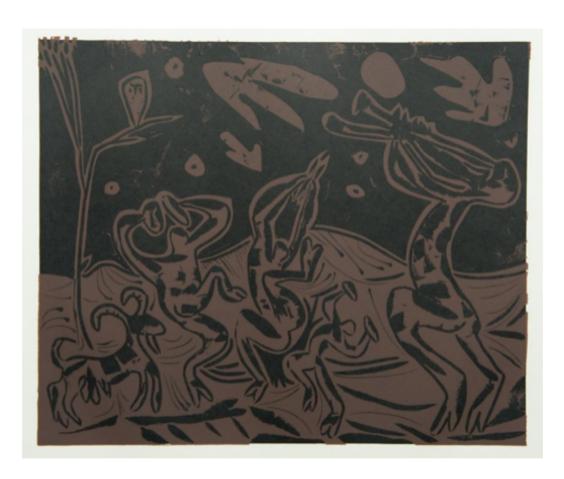


Bacchanal with Bull



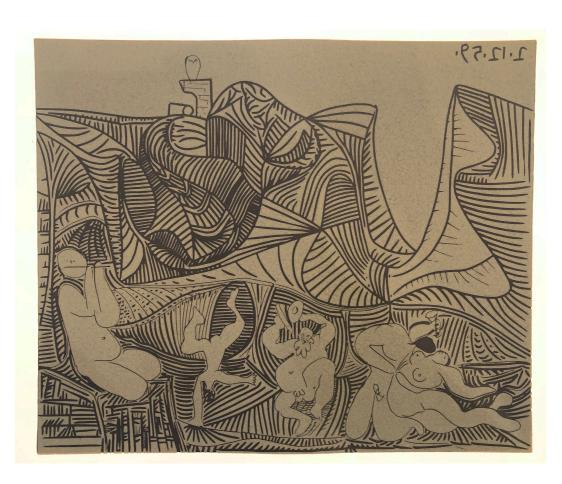
Bacchanal with Black Bull

Date: 1962



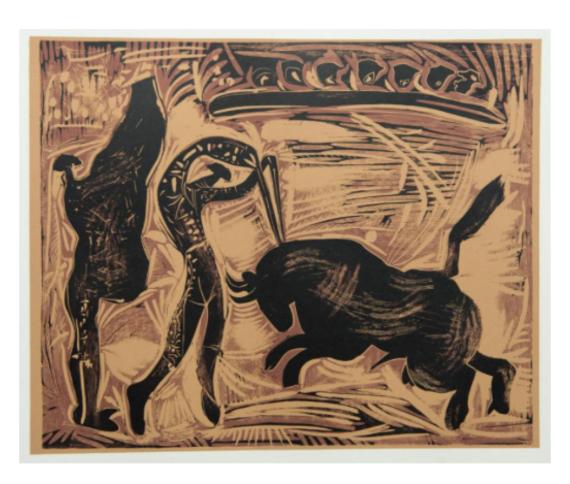
Bacchanal with Goat and Owl

Date: 1962



Bacchanalia with an Owl

Date: 1962



The Banderillas



Farol



Before the Goading of the Bull (large)



Mounted Picador

Date: 1962

Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 225 x 170 mm

Price: £350



The Banderillas (small)

Date: 1962



The Goading of the Bull (small)

Date: 1962

Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 385 x 315 mm Image size: 225 x 165 mm Price: £350



Before the Goading of the Bull (small)

Date: 1962



Female Bust

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 315 x 385 mm Image size: 220 x 270 mm Price: £400



Bull Flower

Date: 1962 Linocut | Unsigned

Paper size: 315 x 385 mm Image size: 220 x 270 mm Price: £350

LA GUERRE ET LA PAIX LITHOGRAPHS | INTRODUCTION

The lithographic prints we have from the series *La Guerre et la Paix* (The War and The Peace) are from a rare first edition published by Éditions Cercle d'Art, Paris in 1954. With text in French by Claude Roy, the book includes over 270 high quality photolithographic reproductions after paintings and drawings by Picasso, along with six original lithographs printed by Mourlot, Paris, under Picasso's direction.

Claude Roy recounts working with Picasso during this time, having interviewed him and documented his creative process daily as he worked on his monumental diptych mural *La Guerre et la Paix* at Vallauris - his largest political works since World War II. The large murals were painted in 1952 on panels attached to opposing walls inside the vaults of a deconsecrated chapel in the Communist-governed southern French town where Picasso lived. With 'The War' on one side, and 'The Peace' on the other, he later added another painting to the small end wall, composed of figures representing the four world races united in peace, painted in black, white, yellow and red.

The works featured in this edition include over 200 sketches and preparatory studies for the murals. Full reproductions of both 'The War' and 'The Peace' murals are also depicted in separate double-page spreads from the book. These prints are fantastic reproductions to behold, as even in situ, it is almost impossible to photograph the murals without distorting the image.

One of the six inserted lithographs, *Le Hibou de la Mort* (The Owl of Death), is widely accepted to be a self-portrait by the artist and shares a resemblance to an early photograph of Picasso as a young man, with his dark, wide pupils visible as black circles, akin to those of the owl.

In addition to this first edition of *La Guerre et la Paix* there was also a deluxe edition of 100 numbered copies, which included one original signed lithograph by Picasso, but the high quality of the printing is consistent to both editions. This is a rare opportunity to purchase affordable Mourlot lithographs and rare reproductions of Picasso's work, from the first edition.

Grace Hailstone



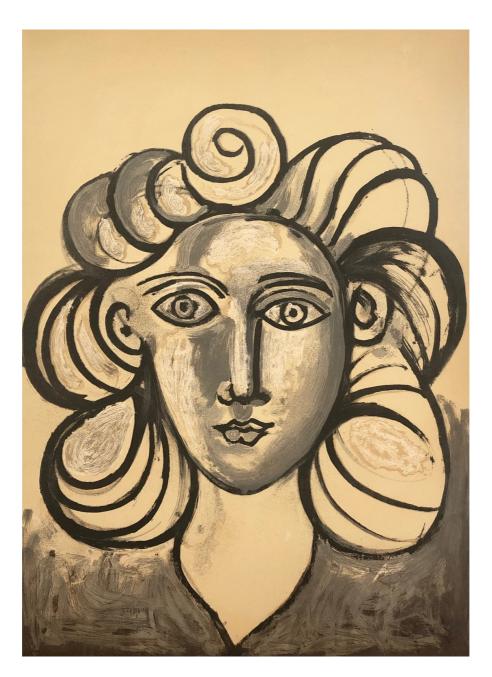
Le Hibou de la Mort (The Owl of Death)

Date: 1954

Offset Lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 260 x 365 mm Image size: 240 x 285 mm

Price: £300

Lithographic print of the painting 'Le Hibou de la Mort' (1952) on Velin Arches paper. From 'La Guerre et La Paix' illustrated publication,1954. Reproduced paintings and drawings executed 1952 by Mourlot, Paris, with text by Claude Roy.) Published by Cercle d'Art. Text on reverse.



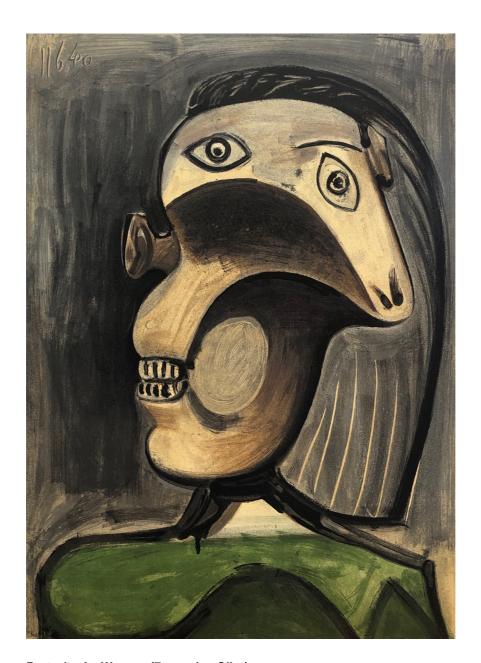
Portrait of a Woman (Françoise Gilot)

Date: 1954

Lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 260 x 365 mm Image size: 260 x 365 mm

Price: £400

Lithographic print of the painting 'Portrait of a Woman (Françoise Gilot)' (1944) on Velin Arches paper. From 'La Guerre et La Paix' illustrated publication,1954. Reproduced paintings and drawings executed 1952 by Mourlot, Paris, with text by Claude Roy. Published by Cercle d'Art. Text on reverse.



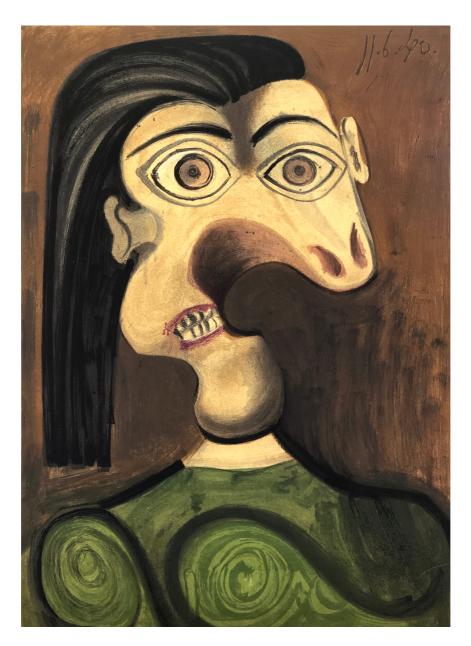
Portrait of a Woman (Françoise Gilot)

Date: 1954

Lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 260 x 365 mm Image size: 260 x 365 mm

Price: £400

Lithographic print of the painting 'Portrait of a Woman (Françoise Gilot)' (1944) on Velin Arches paper. From 'La Guerre et La Paix' illustrated publication,1954. Reproduced paintings and drawings executed 1952 by Mourlot, Paris, with text by Claude Roy. Published by Cercle d'Art. Text on reverse.



Woman's Portrait

Date: 1954

Lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 260 x 365 mm Image size: 260 x 365 mm

Price: £400

Lithographic print of the painting 'Woman's Portrait' (1940) on Velin Arches paper. From 'La Guerre et La Paix' illustrated publication,1954. Reproduced paintings and drawings executed 1952 by Mourlot, Paris, with text by Claude Roy. Published by Cercle d'Art. Text on reverse.



La Guerre (The War)

Date: 1952-4

Lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 525 x 365 mm Image size: 500 x 233 mm

Price: £300

Offset lithograph, from 'La Guerre et La Paix' publication,1954. Reproduced paintings and drawings executed in 1952. This print depicts the design of the original murals in the deconsecrated chapel in Vallauris.



La Paix (The Peace)

Date: 1952-4

Lithograph | Unsigned Paper size: 525 x 365 mm Image size: 500 x 233 mm

Price: £300

Offset lithograph, from 'La Guerre et La Paix' publication,1954. Reproduced paintings and drawings executed in 1952. This print depicts the design of the original murals in the deconsecrated chapel in Vallauris.

LA COMÉDIE HUMAINE LITHOGRAPHS | INTRODUCTION

Picasso was a long-time admirer of the work of Honoré de Balzac, the great 19th century French realist playwright and novelist. He referenced the author's works on numerous occasions throughout his career, and at one point even rented the apartment in Paris that was the setting of the writer's 1845 novel *The Unknown Masterpiece*.

In 1954, aware of the artist's interest in Balzac, the publisher Tériade commissioned Picasso to create a series of illustrations depicting scenes from the writer's greatest work, *La Comédie Humaine*. A monumental collection of 137 interlinked short stories, novels and essays, *La Comédie Humaine* depicts life in the Bourbon Restoration period after the French Revolution and addresses themes such as money, power, social success, maternity, paternity and women, society and sex. The stories take place in a variety of locations, but some characters are interlinked and feature in more than one story. Tériade dedicated an entire issue of his revue magazine, *Verve* to Picasso's response to this work.

Picasso created a suite of 180 drawings and a set of twelve colour lithographs after works in coloured crayon to interpret the stories of *La Comédie Humaine*. For the printing, Picasso employed the expertise of the renowned lithography studio Atelier Mourlot in Paris, where the prints were made under the artist's direction in a limited edition of 1,500. It was a painstaking process with new blocks prepared by hand for each colour of the vibrant drawings, yet the lithographs have a wonderfully spontaneous quality despite the technical labour that went into their making.

With her distinct 'Greek' profile and long hair swept back, the model depicted in La Comédie Humaine bears a striking resemblance to Jacqueline Roque whom Picasso met in December 1953. Jacqueline who would later become the artist's wife and his final muse, possessed what Picasso celebrated as a sphinx-like presence and physique and the strength of the rapport between them is translated by the artist in these drawings with a tenderness that is at the same time both chaste and seductive. A thematic analysis of the series not only shows how central the subject of artist and model was within the 'Human Comedy' staged by Picasso, but also how Picasso was able to link the theme specifically to a questioning of old age and his own late-career concerns. In her book, The Artist, His Model, Her Image, His Gaze: Picasso's Pursuit of the Model, Karen L. Kleinfelder observes that La Comédie Humaine appears to be a parody of Picasso's magisterial Vollard Suite of etchings from 1933, in which the artist is cast as a classical sculptor at the height of his powers only to find twenty years later that the idealised artist-god has shrunken in stature and shows his age in all too human terms. Kleinfelder concludes her comments thus: 'It is this adoption of parody in both his style and his personal point of view that marks La Comédie Humaine as the true beginning of Picasso's late period where he starts to confront both his own myth and historical identity. Within these bitter-sweet drawings, Picasso self-consciously thematises the issue of an artist's late style and begins in the process to confront both his own myth and historical identity, though always in masked terms'.

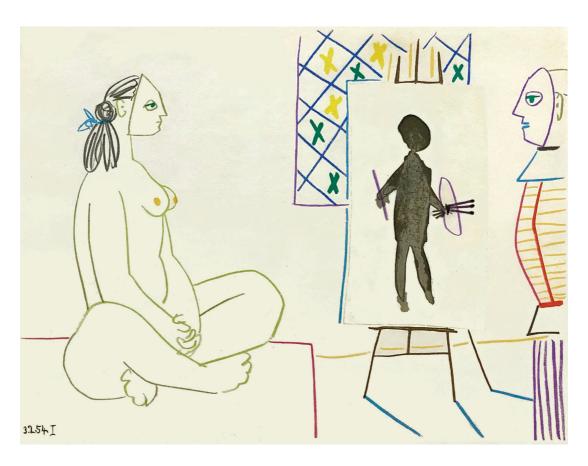
We are pleased to present here all twelve lithographs on wove paper from *Verve* volume 29/30 from 1954. They are all untitled but dated in the image and unsigned as issued. Despite their age, the paper is in excellent condition and the colours remain crisp and vivid.

Grace Hailstone



La Comédie Humaine 31.1.54 II

Date: 1954



La Comédie Humaine 3.2.54 I

Date: 1954



La Comédie Humaine 31.2.54 II

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 27.1.54 I

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 27.1.54 XIV

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 29.1.54 III

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 29.1.54 V

Date: 1954



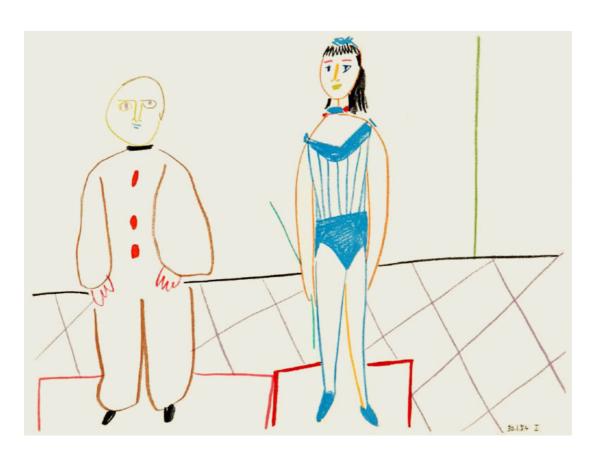
Comédie Humaine 30.1.54 III

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 31.1.54 VII

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 30.1.54 I

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 30.1.54 II

Date: 1954



Comédie Humaine 1.2.54 I

Date: 1954

Eames Fine Art Ltd

Gallery: 58 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3UD
Print Room: 159 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3UW
Studio: Ground Floor, 54-58 Tanner Street, London SE1 3PH

T: 020 7407 1025 | 020 7407 6561 | 020 7043 7571 **M:** 07970 105 508 | 07884 433 578 **E:** vincent@eamesfineart.com | rebecca@eamesfineart.com **W:** eamesfineart.com