



## Biography

Moïse Kisling was a Polish artist who first began his apprenticeship at the Cracovie's Fine Art School in 1909. Passionated by the painting, he followed the Joseph Pankiewicz's class. The latter convinced him to pursue his training in Paris, the city where all the great artists were gathered. In this way he arrived when he was 19, and frequented Montparnasse and Montmartre where he met Amedeo Modigliani, Georges Braque, Max Jacob, André Salmon, Juan Gris or even Chaim Soutine. He was living in the famous Bateau-Lavoir, the cubism's birthplace.

In 1912, he sent his first paintings in the Autumn Salon, and signed on the same year a contract with the art dealer Adolphe Basler. The year after, he took part in the Autumn Salon and rent a studio in Montparnasse, where Amedeo Modigliani regularly worked and realised there many portraits of his friend.

Moïse Kisling put his work in some durability, wishing his paintings were going on, his colors resisting and his thoughts traversing the generations.

Passionate by his art, he worked hard with a remarkable serious. From his first consignments at the Salon, the critics were unanimous and eulogistic, like this quotation by André Salmon " I don't put Moïse Kisling above anyone and I know that there are here many masters. But nobody here is a better painter than this young man, promised to a luxurious destiny ".

His first exhibition took place in 1919 at the Gallery Druet where, once more, Moïse Kisling didn't leave anyone of no interest and has been remarkable by his skill for drawing and by the uniqueness of his signature.

A second exhibition took place in 1924 at the Galerie Paul Guillaume, four years after the first one. Moïse Kisling came back with a new range of tones, and offered even more audacious paintings. The year after, he was exhibited at the Salon of the Independents, with two very remarkable nudes and at the Salon of the Tuileries with four artworks. His success became little by little established and known by all.

In 1934, Moïse Kisling was invited to take part in an exhibition at the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh, and then he discovered the USA. His talent was growing up outside the European countries, and he was also invited to exhibit at the James Vigeveno's Gallery in Westwood Hills in 1942.

Back to France in 1946, the artist settled in a new studio on number 6, Val de Grace Street and continued his painting's activity. He organized a great exhibition at the Dourant-David Gallery. This event was a success and gave him once more a remarkable triumph.

This artwork is full of sensitivity, and shows perfectly well the beautifully crafted and the style of Moïse Kisling, very inspired by Modigliani's art. Here we find what made the reputation of the painter : a brilliant line, some precise and distinct contours, as well as grey and blue tones responding each other. There is a sort of mysterious fascination in this painting that gives it a gripping impact. The artist described the contours of the woman's body with meticulousness and dexterity. The pure and intense colors are revealing the artist's own sensibility. This painting is a good example of an artwork realised by a " Pure Artist ", wich were the words Jean Cocteau used when he was talking about Kisling

## Museums

Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris  
Musée Fleury de Lodève  
Musée d'Art de Tel Aviv  
Philadelphia Museum of Arts  
Musée d'Art de Toulon  
Petit Palais, Genève  
Musée des Beaux-Arts du Midwest

#### Bibliography

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Georges Gabony : Kisling, 1928. Collection "Les Peintres Français Nouveaux", numéro 30