

André Hambourg

1909-1999

Fin d'après-midi sur la plage

Huile sur toile signée en bas à droite

Dimensions : 38 x 46 cm

Dimensions : 14.96 x 18.11 inch

Biography

André Hambourg studied in Paris from 1926 to 1930. He began his training in Niclausse's studio of sculpture at the Decorative Arts School before entering Lucien Simon's one at the Fine Art School. He rapidly left the school to work in Montparnasse's studios. Encouraged by Derain, Kisling, Friesz and Favory, he realised his first Parisian exhibition in 1928, at the Galerie du Taureau.

From 1929, he took part in the main Parisian Salon, in wich the Salon des Tuileries, the Salon des Artistes Indépendants and the Autumn Salon (of whom a became a member), but he also exhibited during many national and international associations, for exemple in Algiers, Oran, Casablanca, Rabat, London, Brussels or New York. In 1931, he discovered Normandy and Honfleur.

In 1933, sponsored by his eldest Albert Brabo and Jean Launois, he gained the Villa Abd-el Tif prize in Algiers. Then he stayed about ten years in Algeria and Morocco. Paid by the general government of Algeria, he conducted many artistic projects in the South and took part in several exhibitions (" Paris-Oran-Alger " ; Musée de la France d'Outre-mer...). Mobilised in 1939 in Morocco and demobilised in 1940, he became, between 1942 and 1945, under the name of André Hache, reporter and drawer for the French army newspaper, under the direction of colonel Raoul Salan. Named war correspondent, he was a part of the Liberation of France and the German campaign. Honoured with the Croix de guerre, he has been the author of two books on the latest, named Berchtesgaden-Party and From Alger to Berchtesgaden (1947).

After the WWI, he took back to his career painter and frequently stayed in Normandy. In 1951, the President Vincent Auriol awarded him with the insignia of Chevalier of the Legion of Honor. Then he was named Officer of the Legion of Honor in 1960, Commander of Arts and Letters, Commander of Legion of Honor in 1986, and Great Officer of the National Order of Merit in 1993. He was also awarded with many distinctions in France and abroad. In 1952, he was designated as painter of the Ministry of Navy. In 1961, Paul Pétridès became his art dealer in France, while Wally Findlay was responsible for his American interests from the next year.

From 1963, he travelled a lot with the National French Navy's ships, in Venice, Morocco, Soviet Republic, Israel, Great Britain (1967-1970), Côte-d'Ivoire (1971-1972), USA (1973, 1978, 1979) and also Mexico (1978). He was a part of missions across the world on board of the Commandant Bourdais and the Jeanne d'Arc for the Department of Defense (1983-1985). From his travels and stays, he took back many drawings and sketches for his future paintings.

André Hambourg was also an engraver and made many lithographies from 1932, he has been illustrator for books in wich " La Pierre d'Horeb " by Georges Duhamel. Passionated by literature, Hambourg was the author of mural ornamentations for boat, for the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg (1972). He realised some mosaics for the colleges André Maurois in Deauville (1976) and Charles Mozin in Trouville and for the school Hans Christian Andersen too. Painter of masses and lively scenes, in Paris as well as in Trouville, in the North African markets as well as in Abidjan, Venice or Istambul, Hambourg liked to be inspired by the special light given by large water area under the sky.

He painted many lively compositions, marines and landscapes, but also a lot of still lifes and nudes, always dictated by light's search. Post-impressionist painter, a lot of exhibitions have been dedicated to him, in the whole world, and notably in the USA. There is now a floor totally reserved for his artworks in the Eugène Boudin Museum in Honfleur and a room of the Trouville Museum is named André Hambourg.

Museums

Honfleur, musée Eugène Boudin

Paris, Musée National d'Art Moderne, Musée d'Art moderne de la Ville, Musée de la France d'Outremer

Pau, Saint-Quentin, Trouville-sur-Mer

Alger, Oran

Bibliography

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