

LOT 17

18th February 2026

Prints, Maps and Posters / Wed, 18th February 2026 / Lot 17



LOT 17

"Pierre Bonnard (French 1867-1947) - Section from Nannies' Promenade, Frieze of Carriages [Le Paravent: la promenade des nourrices frise de fiacres], colour lithograph, circa 1895-1899, 28.5cm x 45cm, within a stained wood frame. Note: from the four-panel folding screen, lithographs in five colours, published by Molines, Galerie Laffitte, 20 rue Laffitte, Paris, (edition of 110), off-white wove paper: each panel (sight) approx 1499 x 479mm (59x18 7/8 in), Froury 35; Roger-Marx 47; Bouvet 55; et al. The lithographed version of Bonnard's painted folding screen was exhibited with its model in the artist's first one-man show at the Galeries Durand-Ruel, Paris, January 6-22, 1896. It is listed as ""no.52 Paravent"" in the final section of the exhibition with the poster for France-Champagne and La Revue Blanche. The prints were offered for sale either mounted (60 francs) or loose (40 francs) in the first issue of L'Estampe et l'affiche (March 15, 1897). Only about twenty complete sets of the four lithographed panels appear to have survived, all of which are in private collections in the US and abroad, except for those in the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Cleveland Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. The example most recently on the market was auctioned at Christie's New York, May 9, 1989, as Lot 487. Evidently many sets were damaged by water and cut into salvageable sections (examples of which are in various museums). A reference to the print in note 43, Chapter 3 (City Life) says that according to Hubert Proute, his father, the Parisian print dealer Paul Proute, bought about 30 sets, many of which were water-damaged, from Edouard Joseph, just before the last war. These were cut into pieces and many of them sold to Rex Nankivell of the Redfern Gallery. This section depicting a cab with dog forms the top section of the third panel of the four-panel screen, the entire sheet would have been 136.8cm x 48.3cm. Lithographs of this size were something of a technical marvel at the time - in a letter to his mother Bonnard referred to this screen as 'the eighth wonder of the world'. With four lithographs strung together like this, the eye has to travel between one detail and another, giving the viewer a sense of being in the scene. The collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum contains the third section, third in a set of four from this screen, but has been cut down and a frieze of carriages (depicted in this lot) is missing from along the top."

Estimate: £400 - £600

Condition Report

Under glass, light foxing/discolouration, needs cleaning.

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