



WALLY FINDLAY GALLERIES

HENRI MATISSE (1869 - 1954)



Wally Findlay Galleries is proud to present this unique collection of paintings, drawings and prints by Henri Matisse.

Spanning over three decades and celebrating various media, Matisse allows us to observe the stylistic innovations which influenced generations of future artists and altered the course of modern art. Matisse undoubtedly became more complicated as he redefined simplicity. With a few strokes, he was able to challenge traditional figural representation and propel us into a new way of seeing. When viewing Matisse's work, we are invited to share the intimate and inspired moments he had with his muses. From the soft tones in "*Henriette sur les roches à Antibes*" painted in 1922, to the bold lines of "*Marie José*" in 1950, Matisse never fails to capture the enduring beauty of his subjects.



Danseuse etendue au divan, 1926

Lithograph on Japon paper • 15 ¼ x 22 3/8 inches • Edition of 15



Nu Allongé aux Babouches de Paille Tressée, 1931
Etching on China paper • 5 x 10 inches • Edition of 25



Nu, Etude de torsion du corps, 1926
Lithograph on Japon paper • 19 x 33 ¼ inches • Edition of 50



La Femme, 1944
India ink on paper • 20 ½ x 17 ¼ inches



Femme Allongée au peignoir, 1928
Pen and India ink on paper • 19 x 26 inches





Henriette sur les roches à Antibes, 1922
Oil on Canvas • 15 x 18 1/8 inches



Marie-José, 1950
Aquatint on Arches paper • 25 ½ x 20 inches



Nadia au visage penché, 1948
Aquatint on Marais paper • 25 ¾ x 20 inches • Edition of 25



Nu au coussin bleu, 1924

Lithograph on Arches vellum • 29 ½ x 22 inches • edition of 50



L'Ile Vert

Lithograph on Arches Vellum • 14 7/8 x 11 1/8 inches • Edition of 250

In 1945, following the success of the series of lithographs inspired by Reverdy's poetry under the title "Visages," Matisse began working with several exotic models for the illustrations of an ambitious suite of lithographs, later titled *Poésies Antillaises*. Matisse made these lithographs in homage to his dear friend, traveling poet, John-Antoine Nau. The two men formed a bond of friendship because of a love they shared for the French West Indies and its way of life which had brought them together. Matisse composed this suite of lithographs with the matching poems by his friend, John-Antoine choosing individual faces to accompany each poem which most inspired him.

POÉSIES ANTILLAISES

Opposite Page
Clockwise from top left:

Iles
Coin Sans Legende
L'Image
Au Coin D'Une Rue

Lithograph on Arches Vellum
14 7/8 x 11 1/8
Edition of 250

Matisse completed and proofed all the stones for the *Poésies Antillaises* series in 1946. For some reason the actual edition of the album was never pulled at that time. At the urging of Henri Matisse's heirs the work finally appeared in 1972, almost 20 years after Matisse's death by the renowned publisher Fernand Mourlot, who scrupulously followed both Henri Matisse's maquette and the final corrected proofs signed by the artist.

Poésies Antillaises is a beautiful example of the extraordinary gift for drawing, the ability to incorporate and to express so much through line reduced to its simplest form, which was one of Matisse's greatest legacies of 20th century art.





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