



PAUL GAUGUIN (1848-1903)

Bathers

Signed lower right with Artist's red monogram
monotype with gouache on paper

8 7/8 x 10 3/4 in. (17 3/4 x 23 3/4 x 7/8 in.)

22.54 x 27.31 cm (45.09 x 60.33 x 2.22 cm)

1902

47124

PROVENANCE:

Private collection, London

Christie's London, September 16, 2015, lot 18

Private collection, acquired from above

LITERATURE:

Richard S. Field, *Paul Gauguin: Monotypes*, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, 1973 (not recorded; see no. 99 for a related work)

Richard Brettell, *The Art of Paul Gauguin*, National Gallery of Art, Washington/ Art Institute of Chicago, 1988, pp. 480-487 (not included; see nos. 272 & 273 for related works)

Ruth Pielkovo (transl.), *The Letters of Paul Gauguin to Georges Daniel de Monfreid*, New York, 1922, p. 161

Paul Gauguin was born in Paris and began his career exhibiting his works alongside the likes of Pissarro and Monet. Impressionism did not hold his interest for long though, and he began to experiment with color and symbolism. Gauguin spent time away from Europe, abandoning his wife and children to be free of Western culture. He spent time in the artist's colony of Pont-Aven in Brittany, and in Panama and Martinique.

Most significantly, he made a few trips to Tahiti, and spent about 10 years there, living amongst those he called "savages" and incorporated the people, landscapes, and culture into his artworks. This was a foray into what would become known as Primitivism, in which Westerners believed that less-developed cultures were inherently more spiritual and connected to the Earth than Europeans or Americans. Gauguin romanticized the Tahitian people, their myths, beliefs, and the land they occupied.

Though Gauguin did not gain much financial success prior to his death, shortly thereafter, his work began to gain appreciation. He and his erstwhile friend Vincent Van Gogh are notable as Post-Impressionists, who were influenced by Impressionism, but did not follow its tenants. His use of color and proportion would eventually influence the Modernism movement, and especially painters such as Henry Matisse and Pablo Picasso.

The information and material herein represents Gallery's best efforts and understanding of the current history and scholarship with respect to the provenance of the Work(s) of Art described and is not part of any warranty.

















