

Greetings from Paris!

Thank you so much for all your positive feedback to my previous (and first) newsletter! It was great to receive purchase requests after sending it. Here is the second edition, featuring newly acquired works. They are at present available in Paris, but they can be brought to the UK when I come over, this coming week. So if you are interested in viewing a piece, please email me!

You may recall that I was going to Lyons to collect some paintings I had bought? The main reason was to retrieve the following work, by Gabriel Harents:



Gabriel Harents (1906-1945) Canal Saint Martin, 1942, oil on canvas 38 x 46 cm £ 380/ 430 Euros)

I first fell in love with Gabriel Harents' work some twenty years ago, when I came across two paintings of his within a year, and did some research on the artist. But I'd not found any further pictures by him since - until this one.

Gabriel was born to Armenian-Jewish parents in Istanbul in 1906, which means that Fate had not dealt with him too kindly from the start.

He arrived in Paris in 1919, aged 13. Did he come with family? We don't know.

I'd like to think so, but it strikes me as unlikely – he wouldn't have been the first orphaned child to cross Europe in the throes of war the first decade of the twentieth century.

Once in France, he studied with Othon Friesz, the renowned Fauvist painter, and started making a name for himself, exhibiting in Paris Salons. The reason why you have probably never heard of Gabriel Harents? It's because he got deported to Germany in the mid 1940s -I mentioned he was Jewish- and never returned.

One thing I can vouch for is that he loved the Canal Saint Martin dearly – all three paintings I've had by him were of that subject. Locks and weirs and bridges, reflections on water, working class neighbourhoods bathed in white light: solid, active, and somehow very peaceful – that's what Gabriel Harents' universe is all about.

Here are a few details of the painting, so that you can see the brushstrokes :



The artist who painted the work below might have known Gabriel Harents, as she also studied with Othon Friesz, and of the same generation, born in 1910.

Her name is Andrée Bordeaux- Le Pecq. Originally from Brittany, she must have been a spunky girl, gaining an Oxford degree –extraordinary for a Frenchwoman in the 1930. Most of her family were active in the resistance.

After the war, she exhibited on three continents, in Paris, New York, Rio, Tokyo. Pictures are also in museums in most of these towns.

The work offered below dates from the 1950s-1960s where her work is cubist - on the brink of being abstract – and wonderfully colourful.



Andrée Bordeaux-Le Pecq (1910-1973), Harbour, oil on board, 27 x 35 cm £ 440/ 495 Euros (exquisitely framed)

I'll continue with two further seascapes. Here is a little gem by Denise Liauté (born 1925):



*Denise Lioté (*1925) boats, oil on canvas, 14 x 25 cm, framed, £ 240/ 270 Euros*

As a Fine Arts student in Paris, Denise Liote met Fernand Leger and Georges Braque, encounters which influenced her work. Her well documented admiration for Cezanne also shines through. Denise later turned to abstraction. She exhibited internationally, notably in New York, and is represented by the prestigious *galerie gimpel & müller* in the *Saint Germain* Gallery area of Paris. Here is a chance to grab a rare work by her at a fraction of her Paris Gallery value.

And the bargain of the week is a very atmospheric sketch on canvas by Reynold Arnould (1918-1980), which I am pleased to be able to offer at £ 100:



Reynold Arnould, The Sea at Quiberon, oil on canvas board, 22 x 27 cm, £ 100/ 110 Euros

Reynold Arnould was mostly an abstract artist, but this is the sea as he saw it, from his Hotel room in Quiberon on the 24 October 1974 – as indicate his handwritten notes on the back of the canvas board.. Further information on the artist, who is quite well known in France, is available.

Please stay tuned for news on the Norwich popup (it will happen!) and the Christmas special newsletter.

As the clock goes back and it'll be even darker, let me say goodbye for now with a painting full of light. It is by Edmond Alphonse Defonte (born 1862) and is dated 1B85. It may look traditional at first glance, but there are a number of special things in it, so look closely:



Edmond Alphonse Defonte (1862-1948), Meadow, 1895, oil on canvas, 38 x 55 cm, framed £ 480



If you wish to see any of these paintings – or other artworks from the back catalogue - in Paris, London or Norwich, please be touch. I'll also be delighted to send you further information, higher definition pictures, images including the frame, etc. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to any of your contacts who might be interested.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

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