



Modern and Contemporary Art - Live Online (A979)

Tue, 5th Oct 2021

Viewing: VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT

Due to current social distancing restrictions, we will be offering viewing by appointment only.

One hour time slots will be available from:

Fri 1 Oct, 9am - 5pm

Sun 3 Oct, 10am - 1pm

Mon 4 Oct, 9am - 5pm

[Book Appointment](#)

All lots are, however, extensively illustrated and carry detailed condition reports - see 'Condition report' at the foot of each lot description.

Lot 121

Estimate: £6000 - £8000 + Fees

Loudon Sainthill (Australian, 1919-1969)

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The Musician

pen and ink, watercolour and gouache

77 x 57cm

A work from the same series of 'The Musicians' and dated 1958 is in the collection of the National Gallery of Australia.

Provenance: Bequeathed to the current owner by Alfred Hecht.

Loudon Sainthill (Australian, 1919-1969)

Artist, costume and set designer, Loudon Sainthill lived a life designing for stars of the ballet, opera, theatre and film. He was born in Tasmania, but moved to Melbourne where he met his lifelong partner, Harry Karl Tatlock Miller (1913-1989). His love of theatre design began in Australia, where he designed for touring ballets. His paintings of the dancers garnered attention and, in 1939, he was invited to London to exhibit at the Redfern Gallery. This success was followed by exhibitions in Australia.

During the Second World War, Sainthill served with the Australian Army. He was discharged in 1946 and briefly lived with Miller in Merioola, which was also the home of a group of artists including Alec Murray, Jocelyn Rickards and Donald Friend.

Returning to London in 1949, Sainthill's career took off; he designed for the ballet 'Ile des Sirenes' starring Margot Fonteyn (1950) and then 'The Tempest' at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre (1951). One of his most celebrated projects was for the set and costume designs of 'Le Coq d'Or' at the Royal Opera House, Sainthill being given this commission after Marc Chagall suddenly withdrew from the project. Sainthill later won a Tony for his work on 'The Canterbury

Tales' (1967). During his lifetime, he worked on more than fifty productions, and published multiple books of his designs and paintings with his partner, Miller, enabling his innovative and vibrant designs to live on to inspire future generations.

Condition Report

Unexamined out of glazed frame. The paper is cockled due to gouache on the paper rather than caused by a condition issue. There is a very small brown mark on the man's hat (his left side) – this is shown in a photograph. Overall, the paper is a very light brown in colour, consistent with its age. This is clear if you look at the hand (see image). There is a light line to the right hand caused by time staining where an older mount may have been removed (see image). There is some damage to the frame (see image).

However, in our opinion, the condition comments noted above do not affect the appeal of the work.