

Eragny, La Route Gisors a Bazincourt (Normandy), 1909

Lucien Pissarro (1863-1944)



REF:

Description

Oil on canvas Signed with monogram lower right and dated 0953.5 x 45.8 cms (21 x 18 ins) Torn label verso from the Pissarro family

Provenance Sotheby's, London 1997, from where bought by a private collector.

Lucien Pissarro was born on 20 February 1863 in Paris, the eldest of seven siblings to Impressionist painter Camille Pissarro (1830-1903) and Julie Vellay (1839-1926). Growing up, Lucien spent much time in the company of his father's fellow artists, Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir and was much influenced by George Seurat and Paul Signac. He first visited England in 1870-71, during the Franco-Prussian war, staying with relations in Upper Norwood, London. He visited again in 1883-84, living with family in Holloway Road, North London, to learn English and work for a music publisher. During this time, he met his future wife Esther Bensusan. During the next six years he lived with his family at Eragny, a village in Normandy, working alongside his father, learning the principles of Impressionism and the technique of woodcutting, whilst also working as a landscape painter. He exhibited in the last impressionist exhibition in 1886 with his Father and met Vincent van Gogh who dedicated a painting to him in 1887 entitled Basket of Apples "A l'ami Lucien Pissarro" which hangs in the Kroller-Muller Museum, Otterloo. During the years 1886 -1894 he exhibited work with the Salon des Independents. Pissarro moved to England in November 1890 due to his interest in the work of William Morris and the illustrators of the Arts & Crafts movement & the Kelmscott Press. At this time, He met followers of the Pre-Raphaelite circle. He married Esther in 1892 and settled in Epping in 1893 until 1897. Here they both founded Eragny Press, printing in delicate colours with the addition of gilding, representing the art of medieval illumination with literature ranging from the classic to modern by both French & English authors Whilst Eragny Press was active, they published 32 books. The Press was closed in 1914. During the 1890's Pissarro produced many works in Epping. He suffered a series of strokes in 1897 and painted very little until 1903 when he accompanied his father to Le Havre on their last working trip together. In 1897 Pissarro, his wife and daughter Orovida Camille Pissarro moved to 62 Bath Road, Stamford Brook, Chiswick. Despite being unwell due to his strokes, he continued his book production, using engravings already started. In 1902 the family moved to The Brook, a house and studio nearby at 27 Stamford Brook Road. In 1903 he designed the typeface "Brook Type" In 1904 Pissarro exhibited with the New English Art Club. He was elected a member two years later in 1906 and mostly exhibited landscape works of Dorset, Westmoreland, Essex, Surrey and Sussex. In 1907 he joined the group of painters, led by Walter Sickert who gathered on Saturdays to discuss, exhibit and sell their work at 19 Fitzroy Street, London. They both became the founder members of the Campden Town Group in 1911, who showed bright scenes of urban life and sponsored three exhibitions at the Carfax Gallery to introduce early French Fauve and Cubist works to the public. It was absorbed by the London Group in 1913 and Pi...