



# Les Amoureux à Saint Paul de Vence (La Fete heureuse)

Signed lower left Chagall Marc  
Ceramic mosaic stones on cement  
222 x 106 cm / 87.4 x 41.7 inch

## PROVENANCE

Adriaen Maeght;  
Professor Jean Paul Binet;  
Piasa Auction House, Sale June 20, 2008;  
Private collection, The Netherlands

## LITERATURE

Adrien Maeght, "Professor Jean Paul Binet.", Biografie Chagall méditerranéen by André Verdet, Daniel Lelong, éditie, 1983. (Comparable piece, a bit smaller, with same subject illustrated on p.100).

## ABOUT

Marc Chagall started creating his mosaics around 1964. His first major work "Les Amoureux" was dedicated to Aimé and Margherite Maeght, and adorns the outside wall of the Library, in the north corner of the world famous Maeght Foundation (Fondation Maeght) in Saint Paul de Vence (France).

After "Les Amoureux" Chagall created his famous mosaïque of the Wailing Wall, which is prominently adorning the Knesset (parliament-building) entrance hall in Jerusalem. Other well know mosaic-masterpieces followed like: Orpheus, Odysseus and this piece: the Amoureux a Saint Paul. In order to realize his mosaics, Marc Chagall worked in close collaboration with Lino Melano, his trusted Italian master-ceramist, educated at the famous art institute of Ravenna. After making a "maquette" of his mosaic-to-be, Chagall intensively worked with Mr Melano during the whole process.

He could often be seen, with "tweezers" in his hand, moving the different pieces of ceramic, in order to get the right effects and colour shades, and moving the little stones around, until he was fully satisfied. In this work: les Amoureux a Saint Paul or La Fete Heuereuse, which he created in 1971/1972, Chagall expresses his utmost joy to spend the many peacefull, tranquil afternoons in Saint Paul de Vence, the town where he would live until the end of his life, and where his grave can be found in the exquisite little cemetery.