



Paul Signac

(French, 11.11.1863 - 15.08.1935)

Ouireham, Le Port (The Harbour of Ouistreham)

Signed lower left 19 Juin 1930 / P. Signac

Watercolour and gouache on paper

29 x 43.5 cm / 11.4 x 17.1 inch

EXHIBITED

'Maritieme overzichtstentoonstelling', August 15 – September 6, 2010 (during Sail Amsterdam), Kunsthandel Peter Pappot, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

BIOGRAPHY

(Paul Signac)



During the course of his life Signac became one of the most important neo-Impressionistic artists, who managed to capture the sunlight in serene harbour scenes with his remarkable technique. As a passionate sailor, Signac was inspired by harbour scenes and seascapes, which were the main subject in his work. In 1884, together with his good friend Georges Seurat, Signac developed his revolutionary colour theory, which would eventually lead to the artists movement neo-Impressionism. He blended colours only with white, and painted the colours directly beside each other on the canvas. From a distance, it would appear that yellow and blue gave the impression of a merged colour green. This technique has become better known as Pointillism. Signac embraced this technique throughout his life and is responsible for why Pointillism became a renowned artistic movement. Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) made use of this technique as well and collaborated frequently with Signac. Around 1895 his style shifted: his works were more restrained, tiny lines replaced dots and he used brighter colours. According to the experts Signac created some of his best work during this period.