



Jean Dubuffet (Le Havre 1901 - Paris 1985)

Les Palmiers, 1948

Gouache on paper

372 x 536 mm

Titled and dated 1948 (on the reverse)

Exhibitions

London, Hanover Gallery, *Jean Dubuffet, Paintings, Gouaches and Lithographs*, 3 May - 3 June 1960, no.14, n.p., illustrated

London, Institute of Contemporary Arts; Edinburgh, Scottish National Gallery; Manchester, Whitworth Art Gallery and Leeds, City Art Gallery, *Jean Dubuffet: Drawings*, March - July 1966, no.14

Literature:

Max Loreau, Ed., *Catalogue des travaux de Jean Dubuffet, Catalogue des travaux de Jean Dubuffet, Roses d'Allah, fascicule IV*, Lausanne 1969, no.131, p.81, ill.

Artist description:

Jean Dubuffet was already interested in fine arts, when he was still at school, so that when he traveled to Paris in 1918 he decided to become a painter. At first Dubuffet attended painting courses at the 'Académie Julian' for six months before he gave up his studies. After his military service and a trip to

Italy, Dubuffet returned to Le Havre in 1925, where he initially worked as a wine merchant. When Dubuffet returned to painting in 1933, this was once again only temporary. In 1942 he decided once and for all, to dedicate his entire attention to art. The realisation of his own dream as real life instead of conforming with society in a 'cultural' order turned Dubuffet in a consistent loner. Dubuffet's readiness to take risks, his openness and great intelligence were reflected in his great versatility: He continuously abandoned achievements to produce something new. The artist's oeuvre ranges from archetypical figures of the 1940s to unrestrained outbursts of gestural brushstrokes in his last paintings. His versatile contents find their formal counterpart in the useage and combination of various materials. Even before his death in 1985, Jean Dubuffet's work was honored with a retrospective in Paris, Hanover and Zurich and numerous international exhibitions.