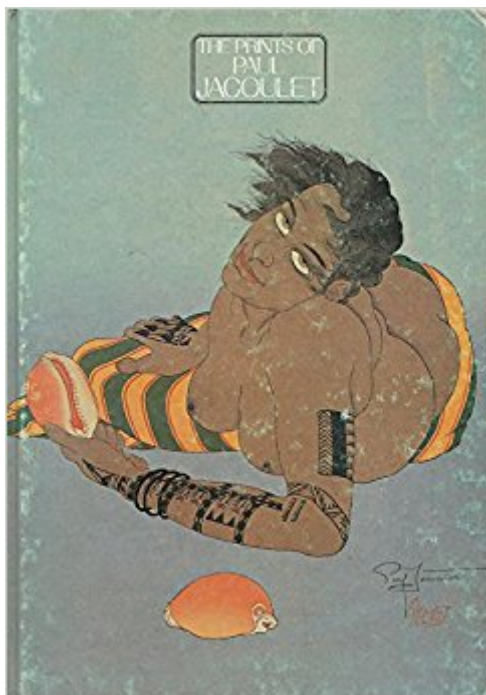


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Prints Of Paul Jacoulet



Synopsis

Excerpt from the Foreword: Some 15 years ago, while browsing in an antique shop in Cape Town, South Africa, I came across a brightly colored, highly imaginative woodblock print vaguely reminiscent of a Japanese print. I asked the proprietor to tell me something about it and he answered my inquiries with, "That is by Paul Jacoulet, a Frenchman who lived in Tokyo and copied Japanese woodblock prints." I remember thinking as I held it that it could not possibly be the copy of any known ukiyo-e print, and yet the techniques involved in producing it were obviously similar to those of Edo period Japan. The strongest impression was that it was freshly conceived and not in the least bit imitative. I was, at that time, and am still, a collector of classical Japanese prints. Because of prejudices ingrained by looking at the subtle colors and superb, but for the most part, somewhat safe designs of the older prints, it is difficult to look at the works of Paul Jacoulet without being disturbed, jarred, and left with an unsettled feeling. Through the intervening years, I have seen a number of his prints in various shops, galleries and private collections. It wasn't until three years ago that I was able to examine a complete set of Jacoulet prints that I had any idea of the breadth of this man's work. At this time I determined the Pacific Asia Museum should mount an exhibition with a catalog which would, for the first time, dispel myths surrounding this extraordinary artist. The marriage of the skilled mastery of the ukiyo-e techniques combined with the view of an occidental eye puts this artist into a category of great interest. An Amalgam of influences finds expression in those artists who live in a country whose culture they greatly admire and whose life-style they adopt while retaining a personal approach which bespeaks their own origin. This mixture illuminates the arts of both sources. Paul Jacoulet is a fine example of such an artist.

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Customer Reviews

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Excellent book on Jacoulet's works!

Jacoulet is known for his extensive woodcut or woodblock prints of portraits. The portraits are of people he met in his travels throughout Asia, southeast Asia, and South Pacific as well as locals while he was living in Japan. What is the draw to Jacoulet? Is it the fact that he once used over 60 blocks to create one image, resulting in a masterpiece of color, printmaking skills, carving skills and artistry? I think so. His adaptation of "western compositions" and use of the Japanese printmaking methods result in a unique vision that comes together in each piece. Technical notes on each

edition is the most valuable information here. There is extensive details about the number of impressions, variations on impressions, and rarity. There are several photos in color, but most in B+W which I consider awful in today's publishing days, and as collectors of these fine prints we should see pristine photos so we know the exact colors that were intended by the artist. Does this mean I do not recommend? not on your life,....buy, read on and go buy yourself one of his prints, you will not be disappointed.

This is a beautifully illustrated catalog raisonne with examples of all of Jacoulet's woodblock prints. Biography and photographs of the artist. Gives detailed information about each print.

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