



Pablo Picasso: Picture "L'Espagnole (Portrait de Jacqueline en Carmen)" (1965)

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In 1939 Picasso cut his first linoleum cut in fast, curving lines. For the time being, this was to remain his only work using this graphic technique until 1951. In 1951, Picasso's interest in this letterpress technique, which was often used for advertising prints and posters at the time, was rekindled. The heyday of his interest in the linoleum cut was between 1954 and 1963 when he produced a total of 150 works. In addition, with the so-called "lost plate", which is attributed to the artist, he developed a completely new technique with which multi-coloured prints could be cut from one plate. His wife Jacqueline often posed for him. Picasso transformed her classically beautiful face into expressive portraits that combined her profile and the frontal view of her face in a cubist manner. In 1962, Picasso produced a fifteen-part series of three-coloured linoleum cuts in black, brown and beige, showing Jacqueline with changing headgear, hats, hair ribbons and wreaths of flowers. In this portrait, Picasso depicts his wife as Spanish. Jacqueline is wearing a black mantilla, a lace veil that is part of the traditional Spanish festive costume, the colour black being reserved for married women. Her hair is tied at her neck and adorned with a flower. Picasso transformed her prominent eyebrows and eyelashes into floral arabesques. This is a rarely beautiful work, which is now part of the collection of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Multicoloured linoleum cuts by Picasso in this state of preservation are very hard to find today and fetch top prices on the art market - a sheet with a collector's quality.

Original linoleum cut, 1962. Edition: 50 copies on Arches paper, numbered and signed by hand. Motif size 35 x 27 cm. Sheet size 62 x 43 cm. Size in frame 68 x 58 cm as shown.

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