



Napa Valley Art Institut Virtual Gallery

Featured Artist of the Month - July 2026



Marc Chagall

Works by Marc Chagall

Marc Chagall {1887–1985} was a pioneering Russian-French-Jewish modernist artist who became one of the most globally recognized figures of 20th-century art. Rather than adhering strictly to a single movement like Cubism, Surrealism, or Fauvism, he synthesized these styles to create a deeply personal, dreamlike universe. His highly recognizable style seamlessly weaves childhood memories, Jewish folklore, mysticism, and timeless themes of love and romance.

**"The Wolf becomes a Shepherd" - "La Fontaine's Fable" - (c.) 1927
(c.) 1927 - Gouache on Paper - 51 x 41.5 cm – framed, 83.5 x 73.5 cm - Signed lower right**



Description of the Work:

After leaving Russia in 1926, Marc Chagall was commissioned by Ambroise Vollard to illustrate the renowned book *Fables* by Jean de La Fontaine, published in 1668. Due to the high cost of the first printing tests, only a few plates were actually engraved from over a hundred drawings created by Chagall. In 1930, these drawings were the subject of three Exhibitions in Paris, Brussels and Berlin. Although these gouaches were dispersed, a special printed edition of *Tériade* in 1952 preserved a trace of the entire composition. These series of drawings are an important part of Chagall's work because they mark a turning point in his artistic creation. These works are far from his usual visual language of Jewish and Russian origin, as well as the predominant influence of avant-garde movements in France.

Provenance:

Kunsthandel E.J van Wisselingh & Co Gallery, Amsterdam
Collection of Dr. Sydney Kobrinsky {1909-1970}
Winnipeg Private Collection, Sweden {acquired by the owner's father}
Private Collection, Switzerland
Private Collection, Czech Republic

Exhibitions:

La Fontaine by Chagall, Bernheim-Jeune Gallery, Paris, 1930.
La Fontaine by Chagall, Le Centaure Gallery, Brussels, 1930.
La Fontaine by Chagall, Alfred Flechtheim Gallery, Berlin, 1930.
Marc Chagall, *The Tales of Fontaine*, Museum of Modern Art, Céret, October 28, 1995 – January 8, 1996.
Marc Chagall, *The Tales of Fontaine*, Musée National - Biblique Marc Chagall, Nice, 13.1. – 25.3., 1996.

Literature:

Marc Chagall, by Franz Meyer, Harry N. Abrams, Inc. Publishers, New York, 1961, black and white illustration under #434.
Marc Chagall, *The Tales of Fontaine*, Réunion des Musées Nationaux, 1995-1996, page 59.
Exhibition Catalogue, Marc Chagall, *Les Fables de Fontaine*, Musée d'Art Moderne, Céret, 1995-1996, p. 59.
Exhibition Catalogue, Marc Chagall, *Les Fables de Fontaine*, Musée National - Biblique Marc Chagall, Nice, 1996, p. 59.



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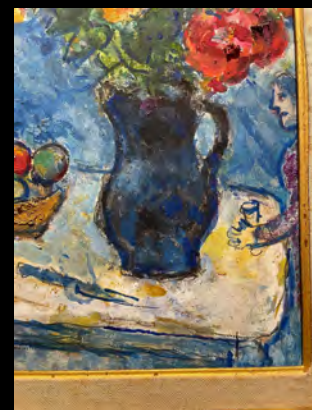
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"Sur La Table" - "On the Table" - (c.) 1975



'Sur la Table' {'On the Table'}, (c.) 1975

Stamped left – Marc Chagall

Oil on Board

45.09 x 32.39 cm – framed – 66.04 x 53.34 x 4.44 cm

Description of Work:

The painting remained in Chagall's own collection and estate until after his passing in 1985, underscoring the work's personal significance. Authenticated by [Comité Chagall - Paris](#) in 1996. "Sur la Table" belongs to a lineage of floral and symbolic compositions that define Chagall's mature work.

Provenance:

The Artist's Estate

Contini Art Gallery, Mestre

Private Collection, Padua

Gallerie Il Mappamondo, Milan

Private Collection, Milan

Private Collection – acquired from the above



Napa Valley Art Institut - Research Memo

Marc Chagall Sales History

Through Napa Valley Art Institut access to Artnet, MutualArt, and Invaluable database registries below is a summary of current market conditions & recent sales history for Marc Chagall.

Overview:

- Chagall's works continue to fetch high prices at auctions and through private sales, reflecting ongoing demand.
- Notable recent sales include "Les Amoureux" {The Lovers} which sold for over \$5 million.
Note: there are several Chagall paintings with Les Amoureux in the title.
- Les Amoureux reflects Chagall's signature style, blending dreamlike imagery with vibrant colors
- The recent sale price of over \$5 million highlights the Artist's appeal and value in the contemporary art market.
- Chagall's works are known to attract collectors from both private and institutional backgrounds.
- The market for Chagall's lithographs, gouache of paper, and prints has also seen significant activity.
- Art fairs and exhibitions have contributed to increased visibility and sales.

"Fleurs de Printemps" {Spring Flowers}, (c.) 1930 sold at Sotheby's for \$4.44m in March of 2025. "Le songe du Roi David" {The Dream of King David} sold for \$26.5m.

Market Conditions:

Chagall can prove difficult to confirm. It is widely known that a majority of Chagall's sale activity is between private collectors. News of these transactions is rarely made public. Chagall remains in very high demand among collectors, institutions, and art circles who collect his works. Based on our research, there is a vast range of prices that are recorded for recent Chagall sales. Trends emerge from the period in which the works were authored. For museum quality works authenticated by Comité Chagall in Paris, the range of sales in the last 24 months is \$4.4m - \$29m.

Napa Valley Art Institut - Virtual Gallery - Chagall Collection

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[Website & Virtual Gallery](#)





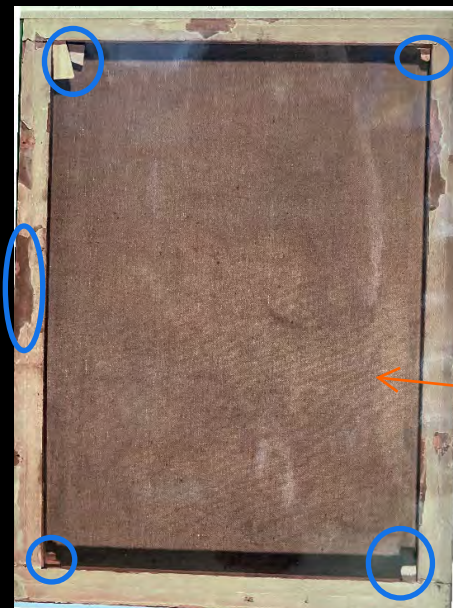
Marc Chagall | Esquisse pour le 'Grand Cirque' (1956) | MutualArt

Description: The canvas features acrobats, trapeze artists and clowns. The subject of circus was dear to the artist. Chagall often returned to the circus as a subject matter in his artworks. He considered clowns, acrobats



Le grand cirque, 1968

Notice the similar goat figure, circled in blue in all 3 paintings one 12 years apart the other 24 years apart



Subject Painting
represented by NVAI

Marc Chagall
Female Nude with Flowers & Animals
(c.) 1940-44 - 68 x 51.5 cm

Radiographic X-ray Scan Reveals Hidden Masterpiece – Uncovering an Under-painting in Marc Chagall's Female Nude with Flowers & Animals

Frame left is from 1940-44
Frame above left from 1956

