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GEN PAUL

THE LAST
GREAT PAINTER
OF MONTMARTRE



FINDLAY GALLERIES

THREE CENTURIES IN ART

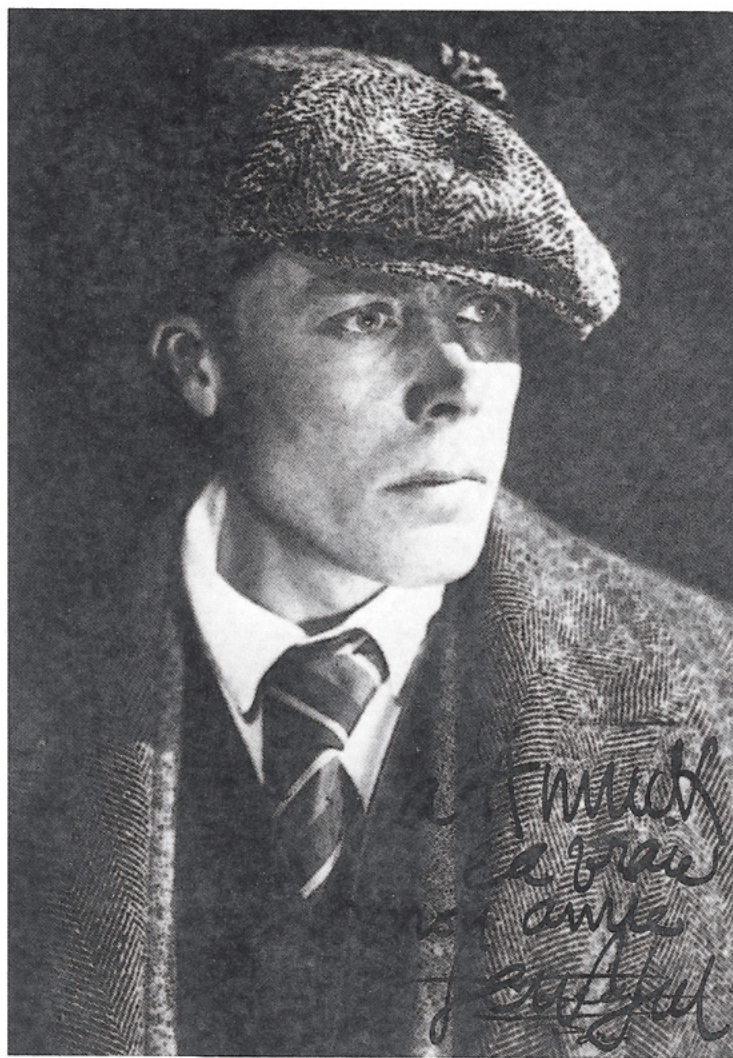
GEN PAUL

The Last Great Painter of Montmartre

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Portrait de Gen Paul circa 1930 - photo



La "Chignolle" Chez Pomme en 1945/1946

GEN PAUL

(1895-1975)

Eugène Paul (known as Gen Paul) was born July 2, 1895, on rue Lepic, the same street of Montmartre where Van Gogh had stayed with his brother Théo. The French painter spent most of his life in Montmartre, where the Impressionist revolution, Fauvism and Cubism began.

The Moulin de la Galette, Place Pigalle and Place du Tertre were everyday sights for Gen Paul. The Bateau-Lavoir was well established as the meeting place of independent painters and writers of the early 1900s. Picasso, Braque, Metzinger, Juan Gris, along with Van Dongen, Matisse, Derain, and Dufy, were among the distinguished company that gathered there, Gen Paul was no stranger to it as a young artist looking for inspiration.

Gen Paul never received any formal or academic art training, his art was influenced by his direct exposure to the innovators of Montmartre. His work was an amalgamation of the spatial breakdown of Cubism with the line and flow of the Fauvist painters, especially Raoul Dufy's. Structurally, Gen Paul's Cubism was less severe, less firmly organized and less sharp-edged than that of the originators of the movement. Joyous spontaneity, warm high-keyed color and fluidity differentiated Gen Paul's application of Cubist principles to his compositions.

From the beginning, Gen Paul's focus was to create art. He made painting his way of life and made no effort to build a career in any specific field. Lacking an academic or professional nucleus, his was a

difficult start. He began selling his work on café terraces in Montmartre for ten years, finally earning a chance to have a gallery exhibition at Bing's in 1926. Representation by Galerie Bernheim followed along with exhibitions at Galerie Drouant-David. By the early 1950s Gen Paul was well established and had gone from a street painter to being part of the heart of Parisian art. Wally Findlay Galleries began representing the work of Gen Paul in those years and has continued to do so ever since.

Though he was original and vigorous both as a draftsman and a colorist, Gen Paul was never a standard bearer for any new art movement. At no point was he a theoretical crusader trying to further any one style of painting. He always loved the act of painting and pursued his own work with vigorous freshness. Consequently, his paintings are spontaneous and full of verve; they are works to be savored with great pleasure.

Gen Paul died in his beloved Paris on April 30, 1975 and was buried in the Cimetière Saint-Vincent in Montmartre. A few months after Eugène Paul's death, Jean-Paul Crespelle, the famous historian and specialist in the artistic and nocturnal life of Montmartre and Montparnasse, wrote that Gen Paul "was the last of the great painters of Montmartre." His works can be found in important public and private collections in France, America and Asia. Findlay Galleries is proud to present this beautiful collection of paintings by the *Last Master of Montmartre*.



(cover) *Edith Piaf au Moulin Rouge* | gouache on paper | 19 11/16 x 25 9/16 in. | FG© 135931



Rue a Montmartre
gouache on Paper
24 13/16 x 19 1/4 in.
FG© 137955



Paris, Place Pigalle | gouache and pencil on paper | 18 3/4 x 25 in. | FG© 140077

*If a painter's name will ever be able to
evoke a people, a mentality, an era, that
name will be Gen Paul*

– Andre Warnod, 1928

Aux Courses
gouache on paper
18 7/8 x 24 3/4 in.
FG© 137300





Le port de Saint-Jean-de-Luz | gouache on paper | 19 3/4 x 25 5/8 in. | FG© 140118



La gare de Vic, 1970 | gouache on paper | 19 3/4 x 25 1/2 in. | FG© 139997

“Gen Paul is of no school, of no trend, of no movement. His work which, thirty years ago, was not yet considered gestural belongs to him in his own right. It expressed the sudden liberation, brutal with all the forces and impulses he has within himself.”

– Pierre Cabanne, 1995

Concours de saut d'obstacles
oil on canvas
19 5/8 x 25 3/16 in.
FG© 137108





La Course Cycliste | gouache on paper | 18 7/8 x 25 in. | FG© 136384



La Course Cycliste | watercolor and gouache on paper | 18 3/4 x 24 1/4 in. | FG© 140119



Caleche devant le Moulin Rouge, Edith Piaf
oil on canvas
28 3/4 x 36 1/4 in.
FG© 136819





Le chevet de Notre Dame, 1973 | gouache on paper | 19 1/4 x 24 3/4 in. | FG© 136105



Notre-Dame de Paris | gouache on paper | 19 x 24 7/8 in. | FG© 140834

“Gen Paul enjoys very clear harmonies in which white and gray plays the leading role, often bursting with tonal fierceness guided by a fine and delicate sensibility”

– Andre Warnod, 1925



rue Parisienne
watercolor & gouache on paper
19 5/8 x 25 5/8 in.
FG© 135688





(left) Clowns musiciens, 1958
pastel on paper
16 1/8 x 12 9/16 in.
FG© 137076

(center) Le Clown Saxophoniste
pastel and ink on paper
21 5/8 x 15 1/4 in.
FG© 137082

(right) Clown avec violon
oil on panel
21 5/8 x 13 in.
FG© 137480





Quartet
gouache on paper
19 3/8 x 25 3/4 in.
FG© 140219





(right) *Toreador et son Amie*, 1938
oil on canvas
18 1/8 x 14 15/16 in.
FG© 139650

(center) *Bouquet de fleurs*
oil on panel
21 5/8 x 13 1/8 in.
FG© 136102

(left) *Le Picador*
oil on canvas
16 1/8 x 9 7/16 in.
FG© 136383





Bouquet de fleur de lis jaune
oil on canvas
21 5/8 x 18 1/8 in.
FG© 138530

Nature morte avec fleurs
oil on canvas
28 3/4 x 23 1/2 in.
FG© 139764



Recent Exhibitions

2023	Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach	2000	Wally Findlay Galleries, New York
2022	Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach	1999	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2020	Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach	1997	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2018	Wally Findlay Galleries, London	1996	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2015	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1995	Couvent des Cordeliers, Paris
2014	Wally Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach	1995	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2014	Wally Findlay Galleries, New York	1993	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2014	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1990	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2012	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1986	Galerie Roussard, Paris
2010	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1986	Musée de Montmartre
2008	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1984	Wally Findlay Galleries, New York
2006	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1981	Wally Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach
2004	Wally Findlay Galleries, East Hampton	1970	Wally Findlay Galleries, Chicago
2002	Galerie Roussard, Paris	1972	Wally Findlay Galleries, New York
2001	Wally Findlay Galleries, New York	1971	Wally Findlay Galleries, Palm Beach

Selected Museum Collections

Centre Pompidou, Paris
 Les Abbatoirs Musée-FRAC Occitanie Toulouse, France
 Musée d'art moderne de la Ville de Paris
 Musée de Montmartre, Paris



Pianiste et Violoniste | watercolor on paper | 18 7/8 x 24 3/4 in. | FG© 136545

Please contact our galleries for
inquiries, acquisitions and consignments.

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