

Nicolas Mordvinoff Russian America Painting 1949

Reference:

MPD-004754

Description

"MOTHER AND CHILD"

OIL ON CANVAS, SIGNED

RUSSIAN-AMERICAN, DATED 1949

26 X 20 INCHES

Nicolas Mordvinoff 1911-1973

Mordvinoff was born on Sept. 27, 1911, in St. Petersburg, Russia, but his family fled to Finland and then France during the Russian Revolution. While a student at the University of Paris, he contributed cartoons and illustrations to various French magazines and newspapers. He left for the South Pacific in 1934 and spent the next 13 years island-hopping and developing his artistic talent. Tourists and islanders alike bought his paintings, sometimes paying for them with pearls. While in Tahiti, Mordvinoff met U.S. author William S. Stone and created the pictures for his books *Thunder Island* (1942), *Pepe Was the Saddest Bird* (1944), and *Ship of Flame* (1945). M

ordvinoff moved to the United States in 1946 and became a naturalized citizen in 1952. He married Barbara Ellis in 1956, and they had three children. The collaboration between Mordvinoff and Lipkind began with *The Two Reds* (1950), which was selected as a Caldecott Honor Book in 1951. They followed that effort with *Finders Keepers* (1951) and continued to work together throughout the 1950s and 1960s, producing such titles as *Circus Ruckus* (1954), *Chaga* (1955), *The Magic Feather Duster* (1958), and *The Boy and the Forest* (1964). Several of their publications earned honors from *The New York Times*.

Nicolas Mordvinoff received the Caldecott Medal in 1952 for his illustrations to *Finders Keepers*, a story of two dogs trying to decide which should get a found bone. The book was one of many Mordvinoff created with author William Lipkind; the pair used the pen names Nicolas and Will. Mordvinoff also illustrated books by several other authors, including Natalie S. Carlson, Willis Lindquist, and William Owen Steele. He wrote and illustrated *Bear's Land* (1955) and *Coral Island* (1957).

Mordvinoff stopped illustrating children's books in the late 1960s to return to painting, and his works were exhibited in galleries in Paris and New York City.

He committed suicide on May 5, 1973, in Hampton, N.J.

ORIGINAL FRAME

Price:

\$6,500.00



Main Image:

DetailsPeriod: ART DECO

Category: ART

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