



**PROANTIC**  
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## The Flowers And The Bird By Mario Prassinos



3 500 EUR

Signature : Mario PRASSINOS 1916-1985

Period : 20th century

Condition : Très bon état

### Description

Ink on paper measuring 38cm x 53cm plus frame 71cm x 84cm Signed upper right dated lower right November 17, 1977 free shipping for the European Union Attention "shipping without the glass (too dangerous)" Mario PRASSINOS Mario Prassinos, born on July 30, 1916 in Constantinople and died October 23, 1985 in Avignon, is a French non-figurative painter of Greek origin from the new School of Paris. Mario Prassinos was born in 1916 into a Greek family established for many generations in Constantinople. In 1922 the Greeks of Turkey left the country to flee persecution and his family settled in France. The young Mario attends the school of Puteaux then lives in Nanterre (until 1936). He continued his studies at the Lycée Condorcet and at the School of Oriental

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Languages. He goes backstage at the Théâtre de l'Atelier (Charles Dullin), which gives him a taste for the theatre. In 1934, his sister Gisèle Prassinos, born in 1920, wrote her first texts which were published by the journal *Minotaure*. He then met, at Man Ray, the surrealist poets, André Breton, Paul Éluard, René Char and Benjamin Péret, then the painters Max Ernst, Salvador Dalí, Hans Arp and Marcel Duchamp. He produced a few drawings and frontispieces for the publisher Guy Lévis-Mano. After a first personal exhibition, prefaced by René Char, in 1938 at the Billiet-Vorms gallery, Mario Prassinos moved away from surrealism from 1939. As a volunteer during the war, he was wounded and received the Croix de guerre. In 1942, he became friends with Raymond Queneau and collaborated with the editions of the NRF for which he created models of books, cardboards of the NRF sometimes called cardboards Prassinos or "bound Bonet-Prassinos". Between 1943 and 1945 he still met Albert Camus, Jean-Paul Sartre (whose he illustrated *Le Mur*), Jean Lescure and Gaston Bachelard. Prassinos created his first costumes in 1947 for a play by Paul Claudel staged by Jean Vilar (first Avignon festival). He became friends with the painter Alberto Magnelli and met Myriam Prévot, future director with Gildo Caputo of the Galerie de France where he exhibited regularly thereafter. In 1949 he obtained French nationality. From 1951, he made his first tapestries, exhibited in 1956 by the La Residence gallery, and sets and costumes for *Macbeth* staged by Jean Vilar in Avignon and, in Paris, at the TNP. In 1958, after a cruise with Albert Camus and Michel Gallimard, he made a long stay on the island of Spetses, in Greece, which was the source of a renewal of his painting. Max-Pol Fouchet devotes a television film to him. From 1959 to 1964, Prassinos continued to create sets and costumes for Jean Vilar. Lucien Clergue made a film about his work in 1969 (text by Jean Lescure). Mario Prassinos wrote *Les Prétextats*, a reflection on the series of *Prétextats*,

then, from 1976, in the form of an autobiography, La Colline tatouée. In 1985, he worked on the eleven Paintings of Torment which he produced to decorate the Notre-Dame de Pitié chapel in Saint-Rémy-de-Provence<sup>3</sup>. This is where the donation of 108 works he made to the French State in 1985 is exhibited. Mario Prassinos died in Avignon at the age of 69, in 1985. Quebec arts, The Black Cypress, 1953? (Manufacture d'Aubusson) Jean-Lurçat and Contemporary Tapestry Museum, Angers (Pretextat, tapestry woven by Pierre Daquin, 1971) Picasso Museum, Antibes International City of Tapestry, Aubusson Museum of Fine Arts, Brest Museum of Hospice Saint-Roch, Issoudun, Zao Wou-Ki collection donation Cour d'Or Museum, Metz Estrine Museum, Saint-Rémy-de-Provence Dom Robert and 20th century tapestry museum, Sorèze Abbey Flag of Luxembourg Luxembourg National Literature Center of Luxembourg, Mersch Flag of Macedonia Republic of Macedonia Museum of Contemporary Art, Skopje Flag of Switzerland Switzerland Toms Pauli Foundation, Lausanne, Lady Macbeth, tapestry Private collection Henri Adam-Braun