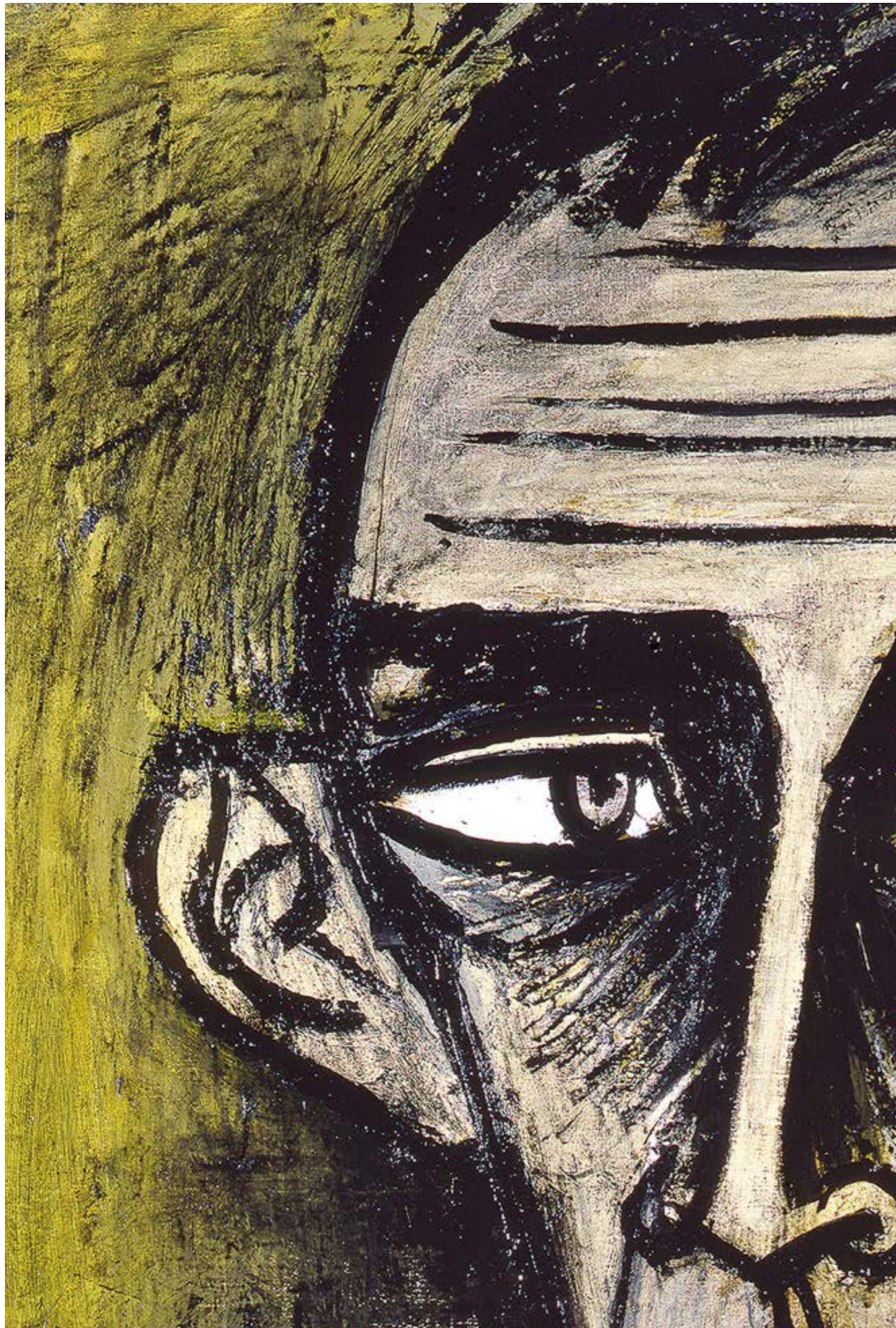


Fernand Buffet

OPERA GALLERY





## Foreword

**B**ernard Buffet is without a doubt one of the most famous French painters of the 20th Century; and one that is most loved by the French public.

A real virtuoso in his field, he was admitted at the École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts aged 15. By the age of 20, he had had his first solo exhibition and had been awarded the Prix de la Critique. When he was 46, he became the youngest painter to be elected at the Académie des Beaux-Arts.

Straight away, Bernard Buffet became admired by the public in his country. His works is typical of the post-war era: still lifes gleaming with a sense of poverty, dusky Parisian scenery, and melancholic characters. Constructed with his very recognisable black lines combined with a narrow palette of grey, they reflect the French existentialist philosophy formulated by Jean-Paul Sartre in the mid-late 1940s and made Buffet one of the most famous French painters of the period. When, after the 1950s, Buffet started depicting clowns, these quickly became famous and much appreciated subjects; and one that is still very much sought after by collectors. The clown image - a reference to the Harlequin symbolism with his make-up of black and white lozenges - highlights the perpetual coexistence in life of brightness and darkness, of happiness and sadness. A subject that very understandingly touched and moved the public after the Second World War.

Although idolised by the public, Bernard Buffet remained denigrated by the French critics and his contemporaries: his overnight success, his unsettling style, his strong artistic and philosophical opposition to abstract art, his opulent lifestyle, all of that resulted in jealousy and rejection.

Meanwhile abroad, especially in the United Kingdom, the United States and Japan, Buffet's work started getting recognised and appreciated. Francis Bacon admitted being "very touched" by his nudes and erotic paintings, while the King of Pop Art Andy Warhol said in an interview that he believed Bernard Buffet was the most important French contemporary artist. In 1973 in Japan opened the Bernard Buffet museum, founded by Kiichiro Okano with the mission to conserve and exhibit the French painter's body of work.

Opera Gallery is honoured to have had the opportunity to join forces with the Fonds de Dotation Bernard Buffet to present - finally - an exhibition of the deserving artist at the Heydar Aliyev Center in Baku, Azerbaijan. The museum exhibition that opened in September 2014 and will run until January 2015 will undoubtedly remain a milestone for the dynamic region and restore Bernard Buffet in his rightful place as one major European artist.

And to celebrate this exhibition further, Opera Gallery is delighted to bring to you an online curated selection of original works - oils and gouaches - by the artist.

**GILLES DYAN**  
Founder and Chairman  
Opera Gallery Group

**JEAN-DAVID MALAT**  
Director  
Opera Gallery London



**Paysage de banlieue, 1949**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 49'

Oil on canvas

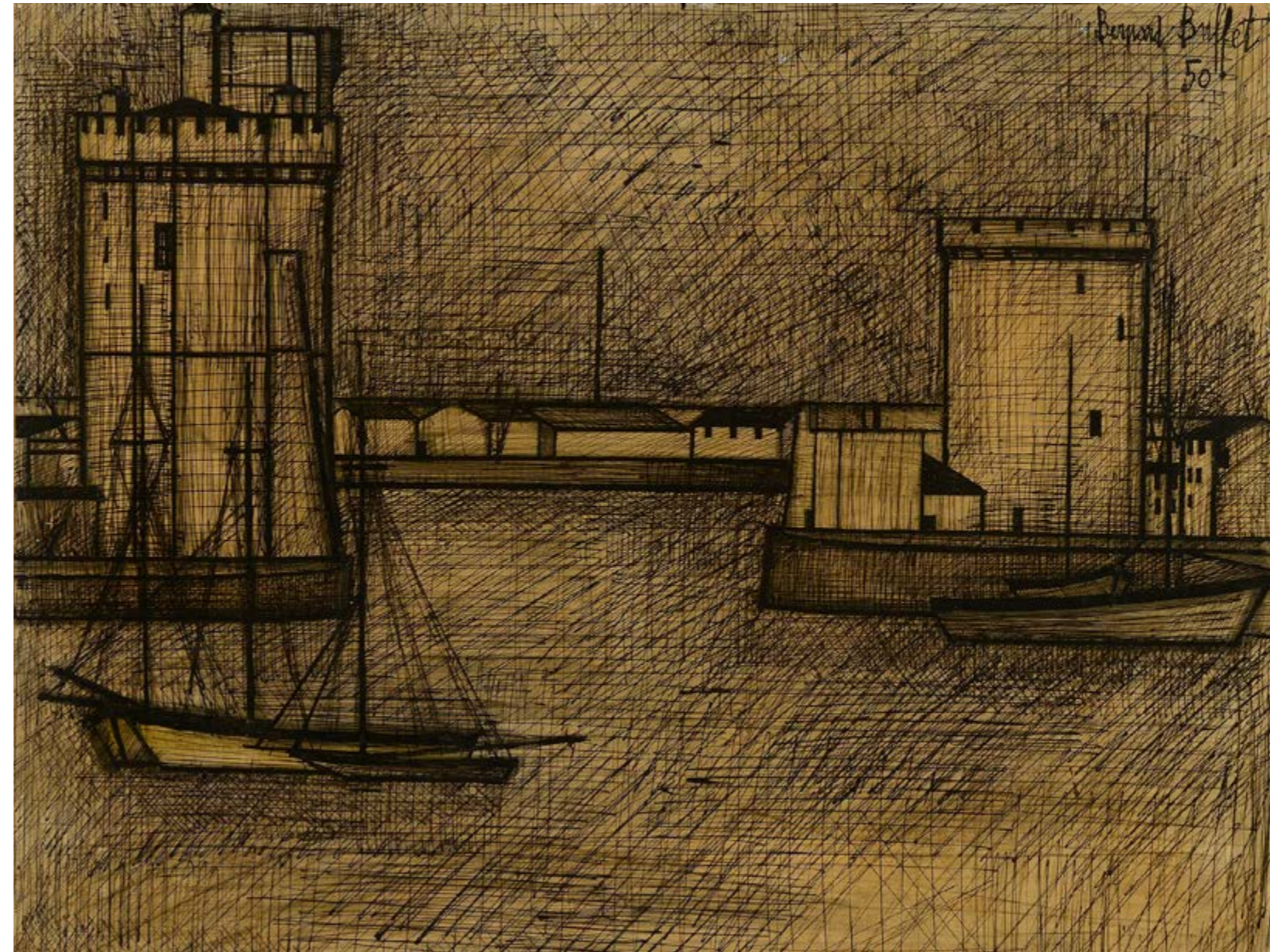
54 x 73 cm - 21.3 x 28.7 in.

Provenance

Sale: Hauswedell, Hamburg, 7  
June, 1969, lot 212

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Le Port de La Rochelle, 1950**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 50'  
Mixed media on paper laid on canvas  
48,5 x 64 cm - 19.1 x 25.2 in.

Provenance

Private collection, Germany

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity

**Bouquet et feuille de figuier (1950)**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 50'

Oil on canvas

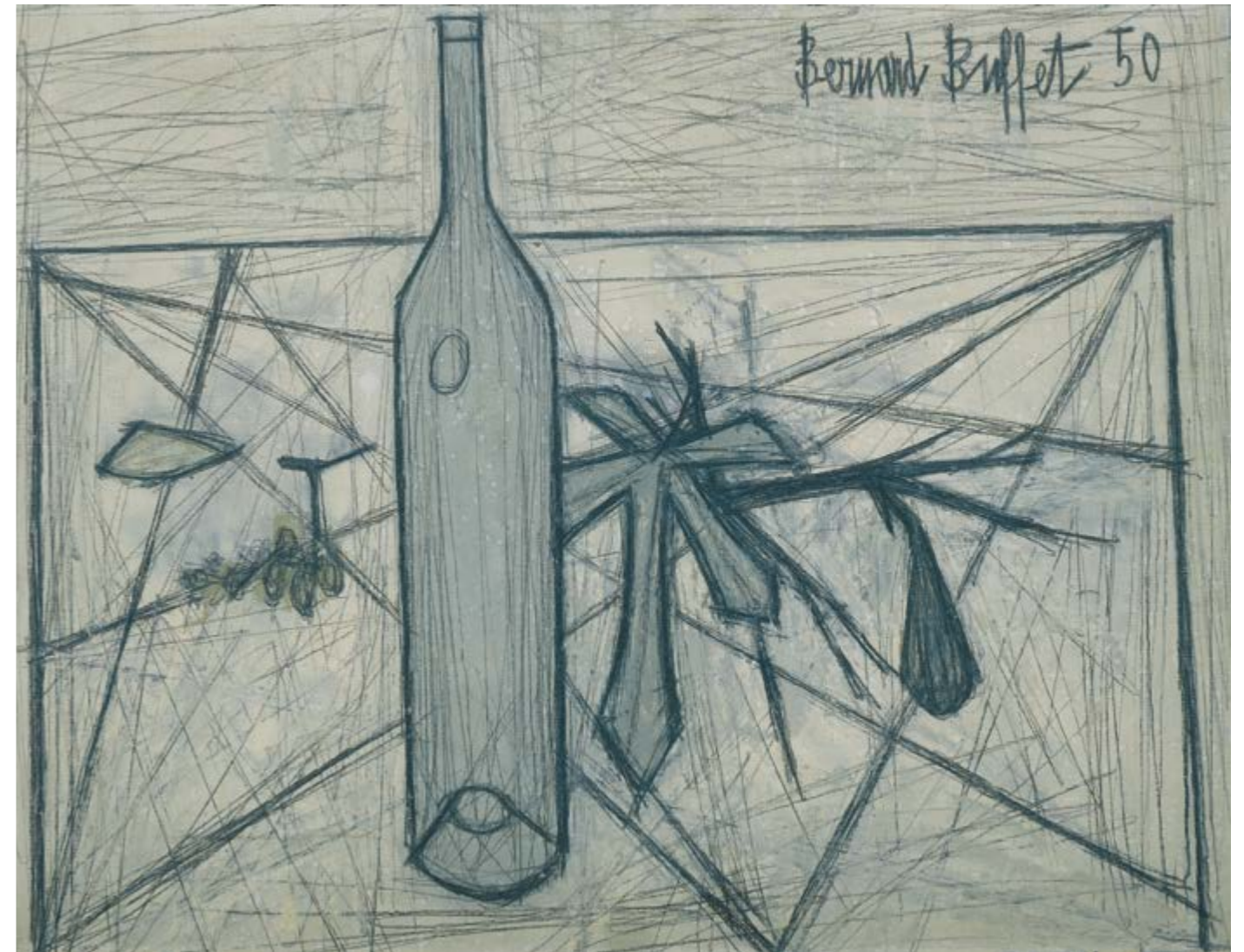
50 x 65 cm - 19.6 x 25.6 in.

Provenance

Galerie Drouant David, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





Bernard Buffet 51

**Verres et Fruits, 1951**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 51'

Oil on canvas

20 x 50 cm - 7.8 x 19.7 in.

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Fleurs des champs dans un verre, 1951**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 51'

Oil on canvas

65,3 x 50,2 cm - 25.7 x 19.8 in.

Provenance

Galerie Drouant-David, Paris

Private collection, France

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Table et chaise, 1951**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 51'  
Oil on canvas  
97 x 146 cm - 38.2 x 57.5 in.

Provenance

Solvil Beaux-Arts, Geneva  
Galerie Roger Ferrero, Geneva  
Galerie Taménaga, Tokyo  
Private collection, Tokyo  
Corporate collection, Japan  
Private collection, Europe

Exhibited

Geneva, Galerie Roger Ferrero,  
Bernard Buffet, Feb. - April 1982,  
No. 18, ill. p. 7

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity





**Trois jacinthes dans un vase, 1952**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 52'

Oil on canvas

65 x 50 cm - 25.6 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier

Sale: Christie's, New York, May 9th 2000

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Pot de jacinthes (1952)**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 52'

Oil on canvas

65 x 50 cm - 25.6 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

Galerie Drouant David, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**La Mouche, 1952**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 52'  
Oil on canvas  
25 x 37 cm - 9.8 x 14.6 in.

**La Plage, 1952**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 52'

Watercolour, pencil on paper

50,5 x 65,5 cm - 19.9 x 25.8 in.

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Le Pétrin, 1953**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 53'  
Oil on canvas  
46 x 61 cm - 18.1 x 24 in.

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Profil de femme, 1953**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 53'

Pencil and crayon on paper

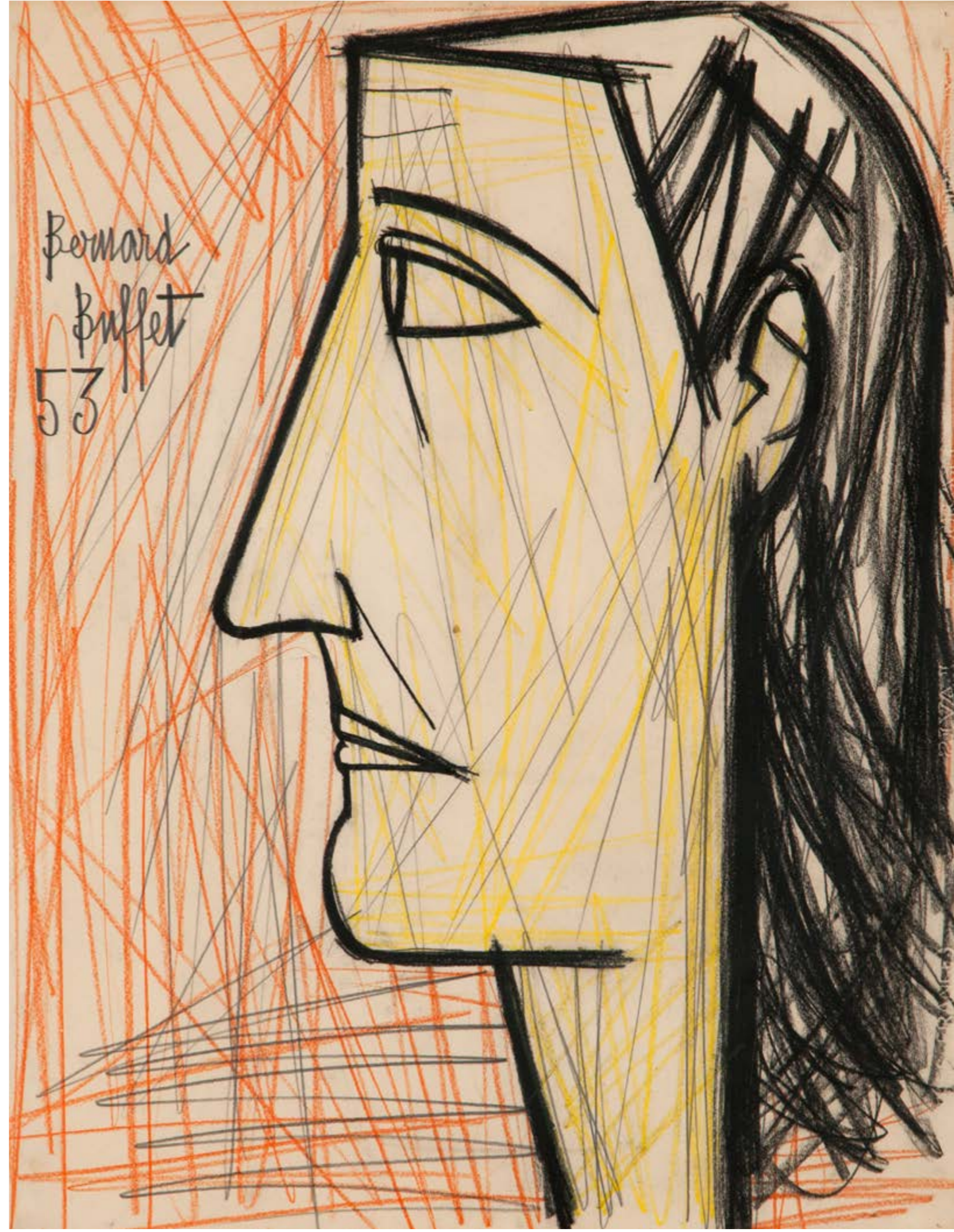
65 x 50 cm - 25.6 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

Galerie Drouant-David, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





**Nature morte au compotier, 1955**

Signed and dated "Bernard Buffet 55"

Oil on canvas

50 x 65 cm - 19.7 x 25.6 in.

Provenance

Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Pitt.

Gift from the above to the previous owner, 1973.

The Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College.

Private European collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Marseille, le Vallon des Auffes, 1957**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 57'

Oil on canvas

97.2 x 129.9 cm - 38.2 x 51.1 in.

Provenance

Private collection, New York

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Acquired from the above circa 1957

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Le Sacré Cœur de Montmartre, 1958**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 58'

Oil on canvas

65 x 46 cm - 25.6 x 18.1 in.

Provenance

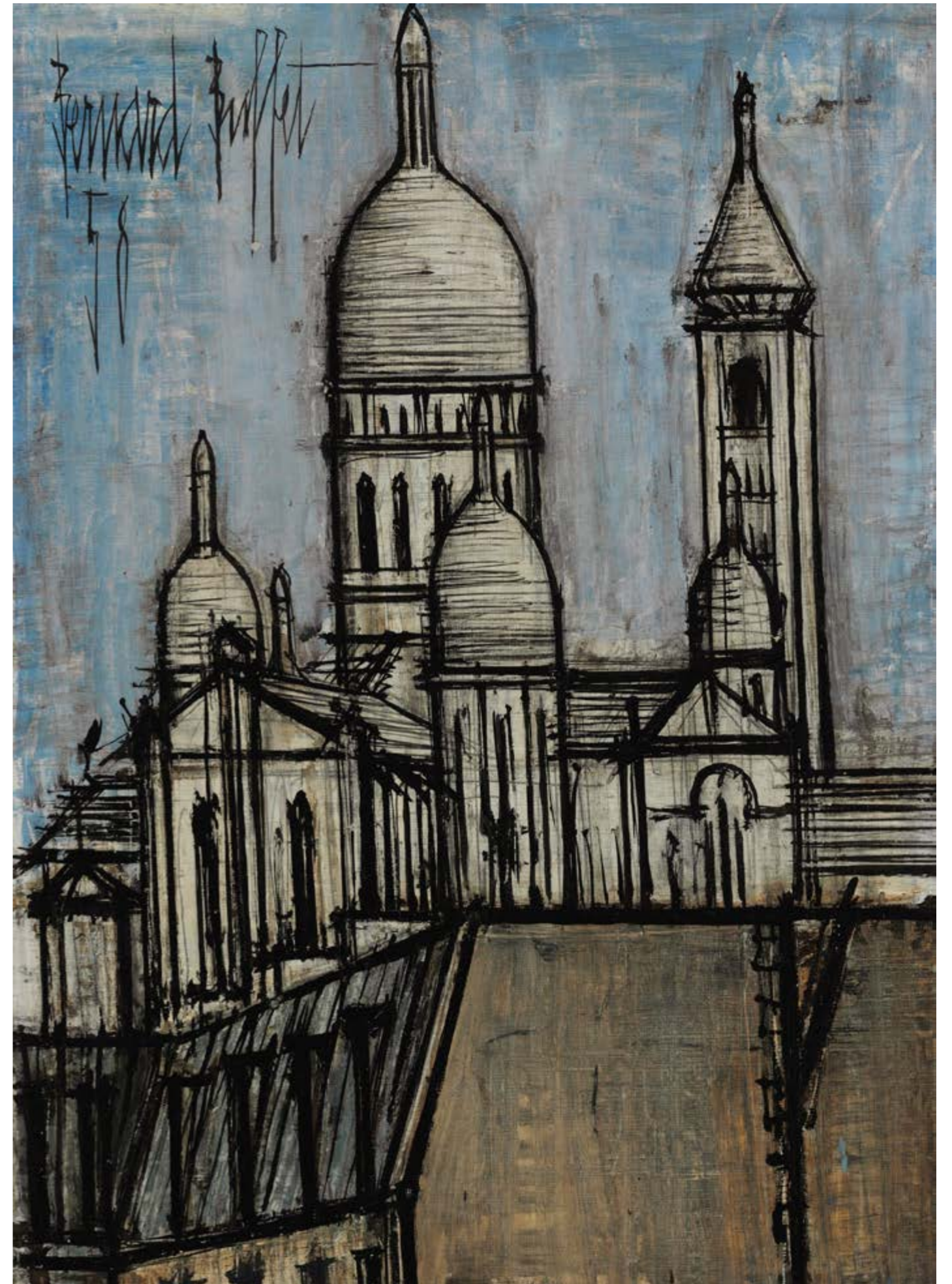
Galerie David & Garnier, Paris

Herman C. Goldsmith, New York

Private collection, USA

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





**Bouquet de fleurs au vase, 1959**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 59'  
Gouache, watercolour and ink on paper  
64.1 x 50.1 cm - 25.2 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

E. David & M. Garnier, Paris

Acquired from the previous December 12, 1959



**Fleurs, 1959**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 59'

Mixed media on paper

64 x 48 cm - 25.2 x 18.9 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity

**Annabel en blue jeans, 1960**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1960 Le 12 Décembre'

Oil on canvas

130 x 97 cm - 51.2 x 38.2 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

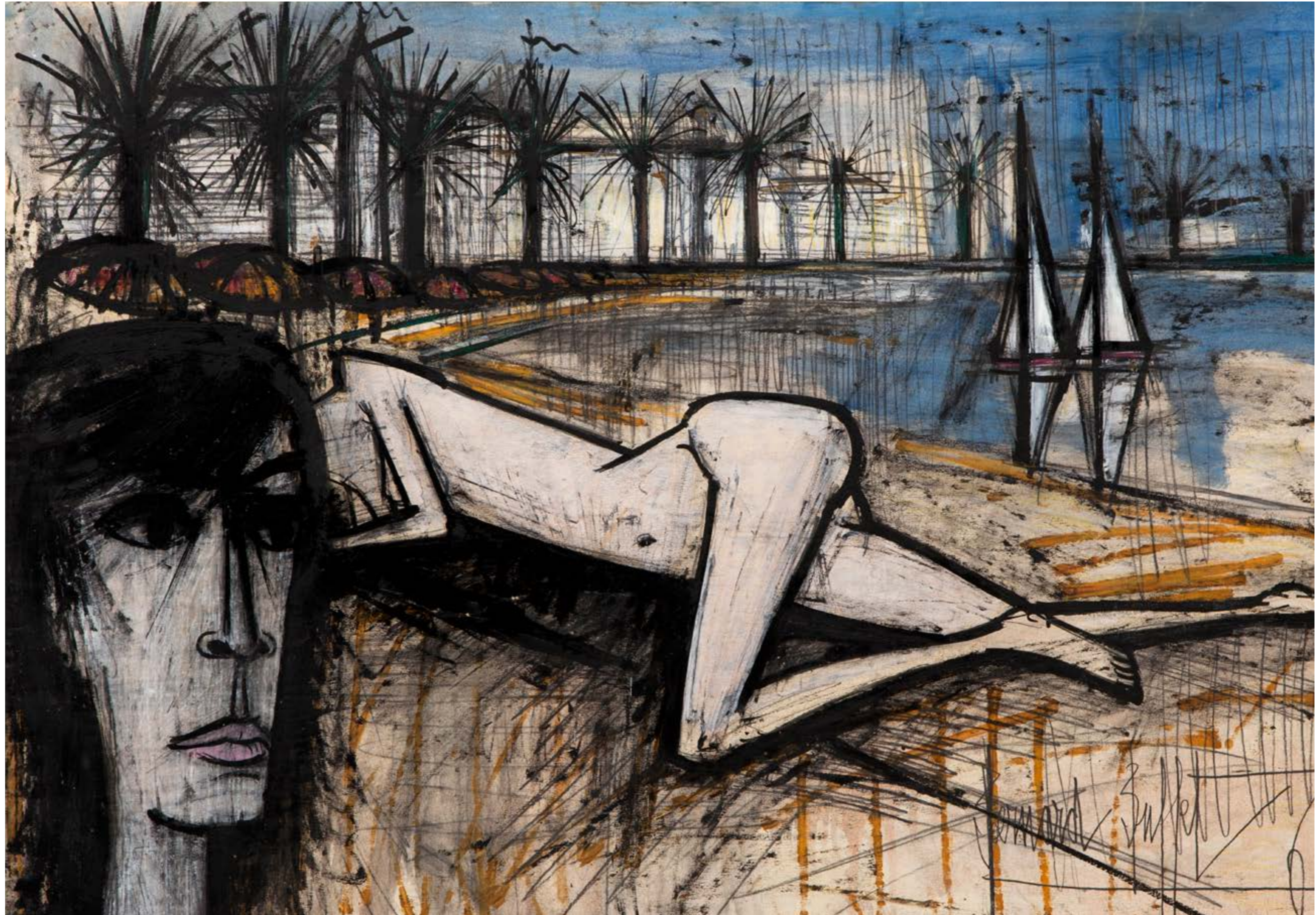
This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity

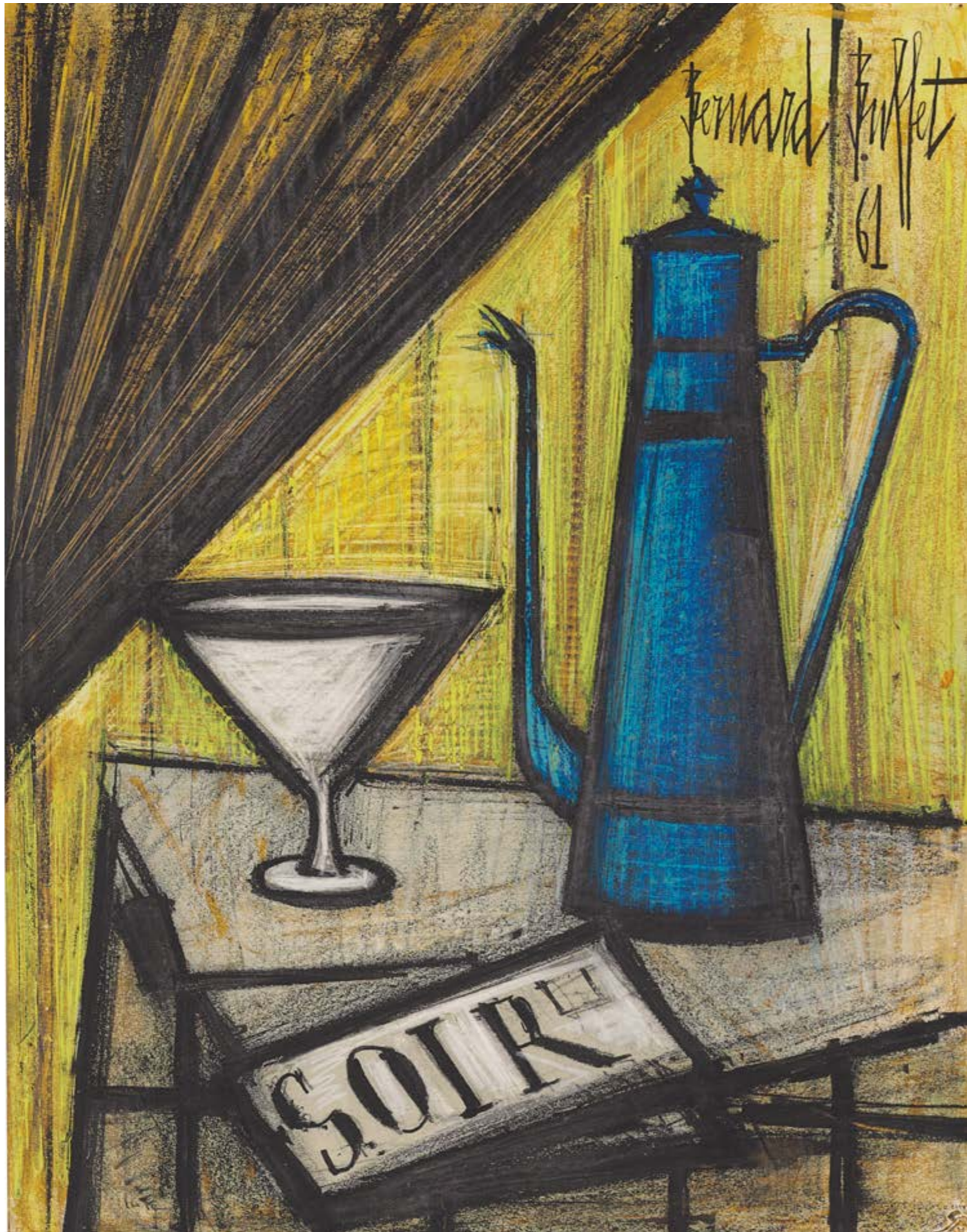


**Nu allongé sur la plage, 1960**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 60'  
Oil and gouache on paper  
mounted on canvas  
76 x 106 cm - 29.9 x 41.7 in.

Provenance  
Galerie Drouant-David, Paris  
Galerie Ferrero, Geneva  
Private collection, Nagoya

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity





**Nature morte à la cafetière bleue, 1961**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 61'  
Gouache, brush and black ink, colored wax crayons  
and white chalk over pencil on paper  
64.6 x 49.8 cm - 25.4 x 19.6 in.

Provenance

Galerie David et Garnier, Paris.  
Greer Gallery, Inc., New York.  
Acquired from the above by the family of the present owner  
(1974)

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Dahlias, 1961**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 61'

Oil on canvas

100 x 66 cm - 39.4 x 26 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris.

Wally Findlay Galleries, New York

Acquired from the above

by the family of the present owner (*circa* 1965)

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Portrait, 1963**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 63'

Oil on canvas

65 x 50 cm - 25.6 x 19.7 in.

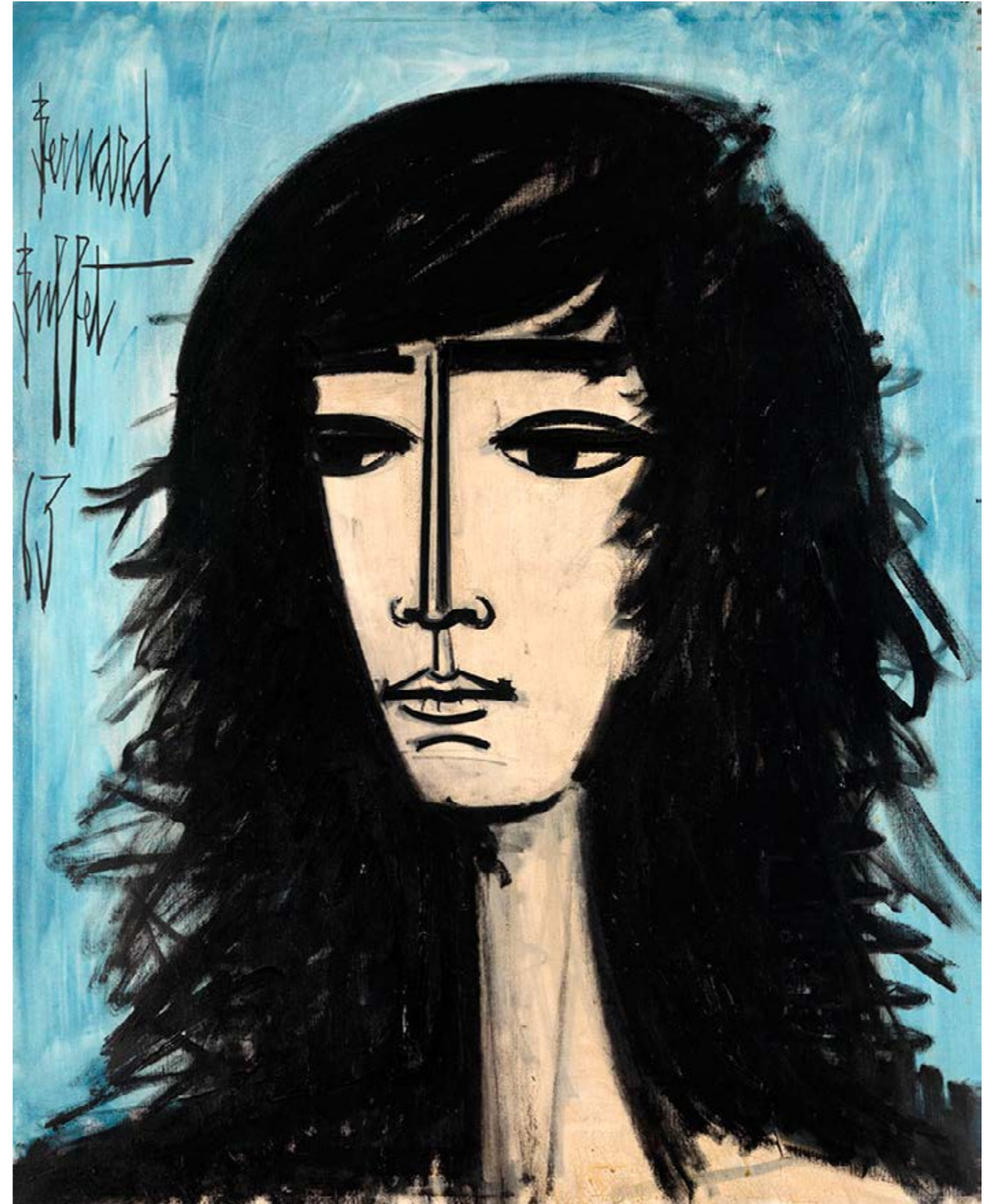
Provenance

Galerie Garnier, Paris

Sale: Christie's, Tel Aviv, 1999, lot 43

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Delphiniums rouges**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 64'

Oil on canvas

81.5 x 54 cm - 31.1 x 21.1 in.

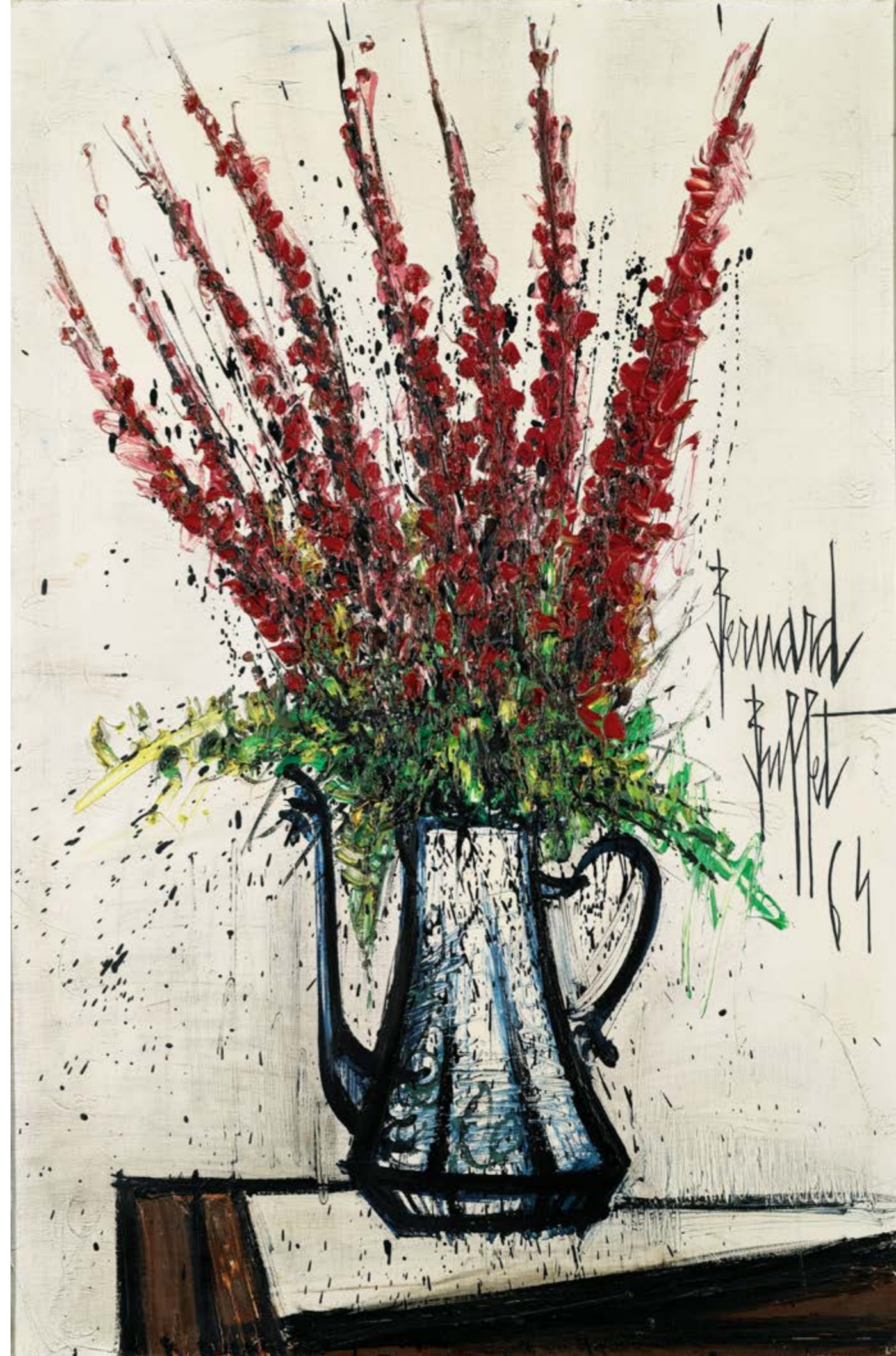
Provenance

Galerie Leandro, Geneva

Acquired from the above (1967)

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





**Barques à marée basse, 1965**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 65'

Gouache on paper

50 x 65 cm - 19.7 x 25.6 in.

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Iris bleus dans un vase, 1966**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 66'

Mixed media

81 x 60 cm - 31.9 x 23.6 in.

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Les Ecluses, Védreuil, 1971**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 71'  
Oil on canvas  
81 x 130 cm - 31.9 x 51.2 in.

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity

1973

Donald Moffet



Previous page

**Environs de La Rochepot, 1973**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 73'

Oil on canvas

89 x 130 cm - 35 x 51.2 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Quiberon, bateau à quai, 1973**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1973'

Oil on canvas

89 x 130 cm - 35 x 51.2 in.

Provenance

Private collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**La Chaumière fleurie, Normandie,  
1974**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1974'

Oil on canvas

89 x 130 cm - 35 x 51.2 in.

Provenance  
Galerie Maurice Garnier





Bernard Buffet

1977

**La Péniche d'Amsterdam, 1977**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1977'

Oil on canvas

97.2 x 146.1 cm - 38.3 x 57.5 in.

Provenance

Acquired by the previous owner  
(2002)

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity

**La Caravelle, 1977**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1977'

Oil on canvas

130 x 162 cm - 51.2 x 63.8 in.

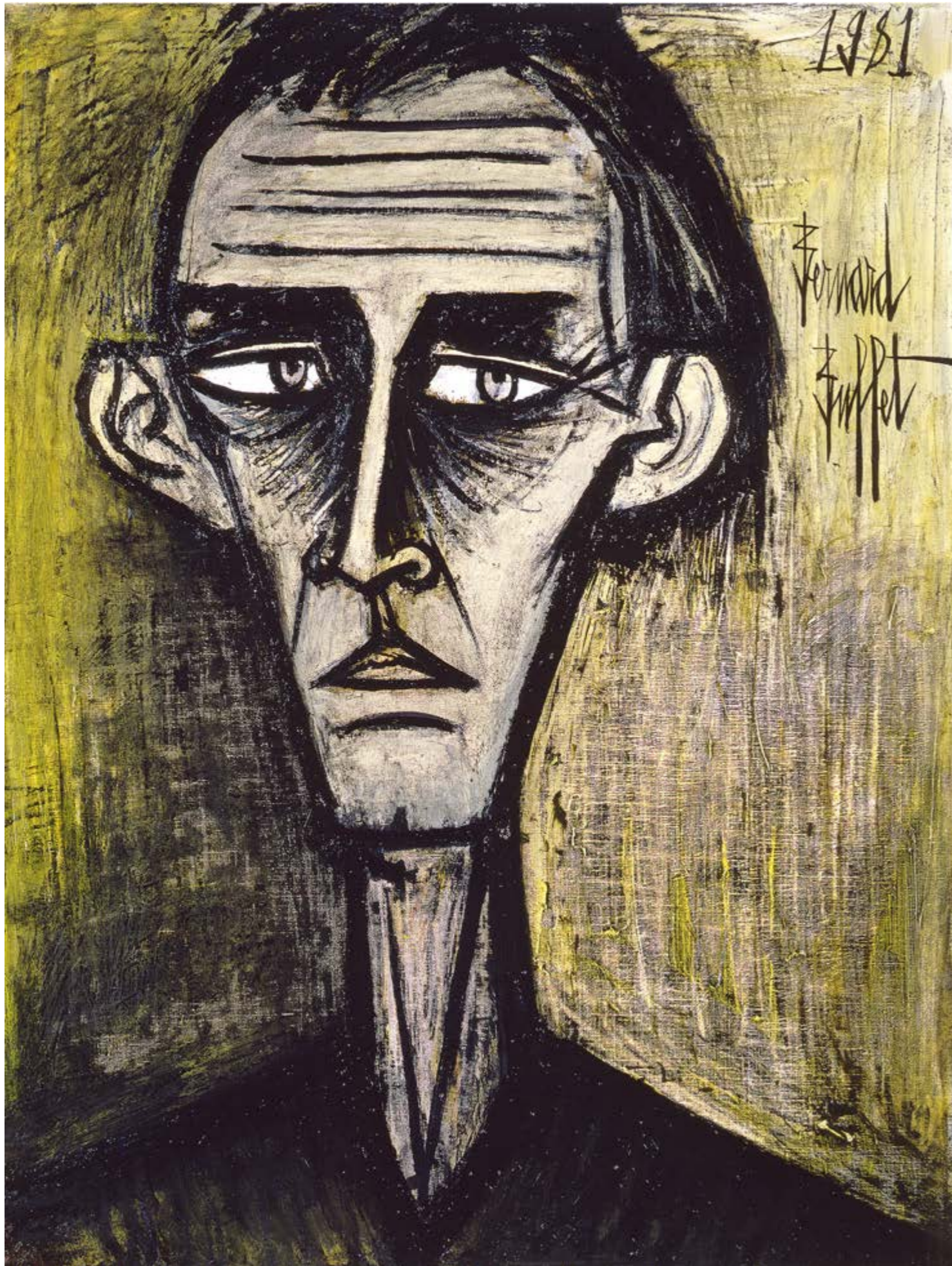
Provenance

Private collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity





**Autoportrait 18, 1981**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1981'

Oil on canvas

116 x 89 cm - 45.7 x 35 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity

**Japonaises, 1981**

Signed 'Bernard Buffet'

Watercolour, India ink and pencil on paper

65 x 50 cm - 25.6 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

Sale: Mr. Charbonneaux, Paris, March 22, 1988, lot 58

Private collection, Paris

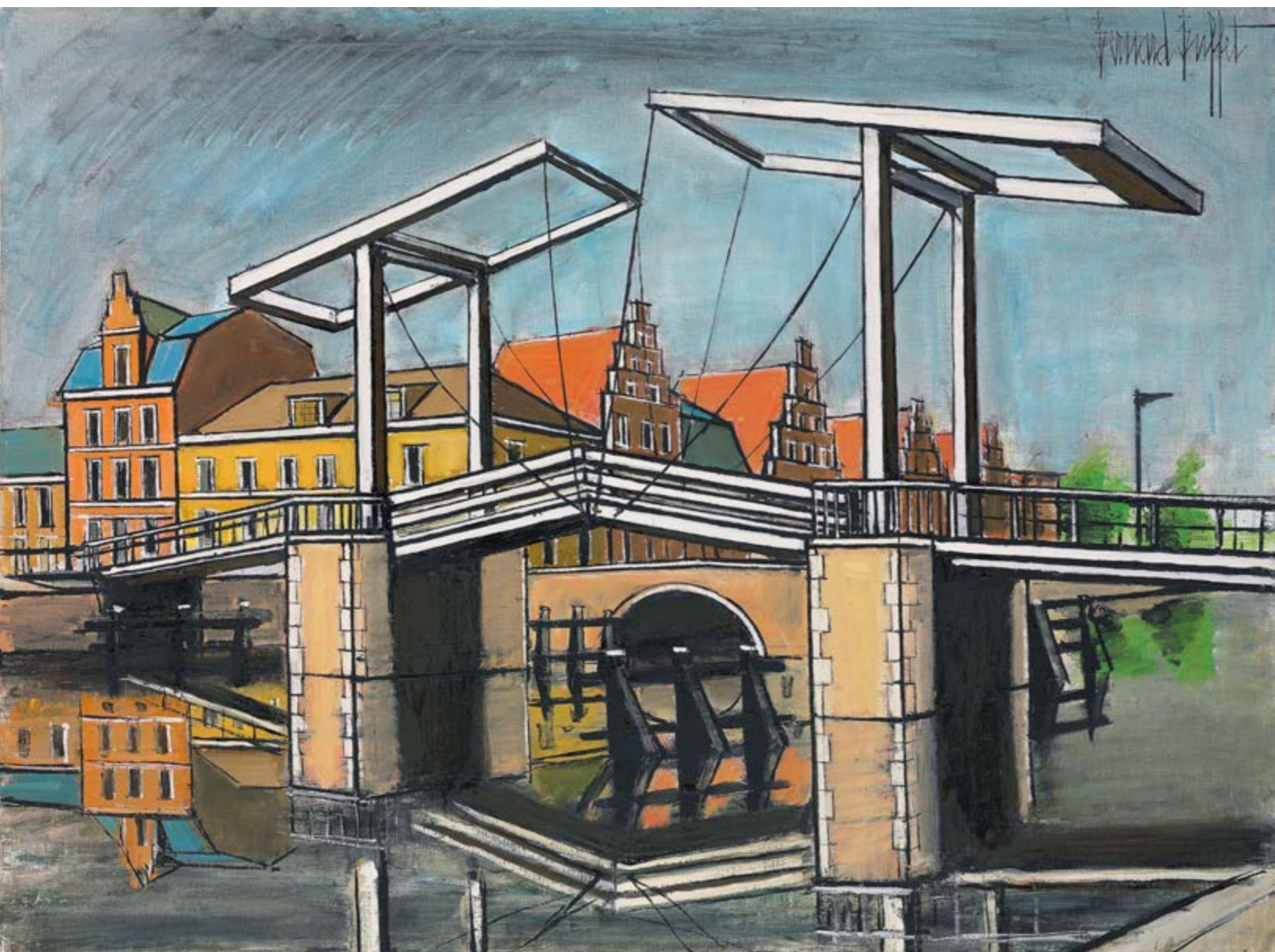
Exhibited

Paris, Galerie Maurice Garnier, Bernard Buffet et le Japon, Feb.-March 1981

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





**Le Pont Levant, Harlem, 1985**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1985'

Oil on canvas

116 x 89 cm - 45.7 x 35 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Venise, la Salute, 1986**

Signed 'Bernard Buffet'  
Gouache, pen and brush and India ink on card  
49.7 x 64.9 cm - 19.6 x 25.5 in.

Provenance  
Galerie David & Garnier, Paris (No. 86B)

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by a certificate  
of authenticity

**La Sainte-Chapelle, 1988**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1988'

Oil on canvas

195 x 114 cm - 76.8 x 44.9 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Galerie Taménaga, Tokyo

Manhattan Gallery, Tokyo

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





**Le Métro aérien et le boulevard Rochechouart,  
métro Jaurès, 1989**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1989'

Oil on canvas

113,5 x 145,7 cm - 44.7 x 57.4 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Galerie Taménaga, Tokyo

Corporate collection, Japan

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate  
of authenticity





**Clown au petit chapeau jaune, 1989**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1989'

Oil on canvas

100 x 81 cm - 39.4 x 31.9 in.

Provenance

Galerie David & Garnier, Paris

Private collection, Japan

Private collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity



**Le Pont métallique, 1990**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1990'  
Oil on canvas  
89 x 130 cm - 35 x 51.2in.

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by a certificate  
of authenticity



**La Mairie, 1990**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1990'

Oil on canvas

81 x 116 cm - 31.9 x 45.7 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**L'Écluse, 1990**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1990'

Oil on canvas

97 x 146 cm - 38.2 x 57.5 in.

Provenance

Private collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Saules près de l'étang, 1990**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1990'  
Oil on canvas  
89 x 130 cm - 35.5 x 51 in.

Provenance  
Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris



Le Val André, 1990  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1990'  
Oil on canvas  
89 x 130 cm - 35 x 51.2 in.

Provenance  
Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity

1991

Frank J. Taylor



**Villa normande, 1991**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1991'

Oil on canvas

81 x 116 cm - 32 x 46 in.

**Fleurs dans un pichet, 1991**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1991'

Oil on canvas

73 x 54 cm - 28.7 x 21.3 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity







**Le Val André, 1990**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1990'

Oil on canvas

89 x 130 cm - 35 x 51.2 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Le Pigeonnier, 1994**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1994'  
Oil on canvas  
60 x 81 cm - 24 x 32 in.

Provenance  
Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris



**Le Temple des lamas, l'arche cérémoniale, 1995**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1994'

Oil on canvas

60 x 81 cm - 24 x 32 in.

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity

**Le grand bouquet, 1995**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1995'

Oil on canvas

146 x 114 cm - 57.5 x 44.9 in.

Provenance

Private collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





**Bouquet dans un vase, 1996**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1996'

Oil on canvas

65 x 50 cm- 25.6 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris



**L'Etang de Prébois, 1997**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1997'

Oil on canvas

65 x 92 cm- 25.6 x 36.5 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris



**Armes, 1997**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1997'

Oil on canvas

81 x 116 cm - 31.9 x 45.7 in.

Provenance

Private collection

Certificate

This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity



**Fleurs aux carreaux bleus, 1998**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1998'

Oil on canvas

116 x 81 cm- 46 x 32 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris





**Chardons et lys, 1998**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1998'

Oil on canvas

92 x 65 cm - 36.5 x 26 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris

**Orchidées jaunes dans une théière, 1998**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1998'

Oil on canvas

65 x 50 cm - 25.6 x 19.7 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris



**Papillon orange, 1998**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1998'

Oil on canvas

50 x 65 cm - 19.7 x 25.6 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris





**Le Château-fort rose, 1998**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1998'

Oil on canvas

50 x 65 cm- 20 x 25.6 in.

Provenance

Galerie Maurice Garnier, Paris



**Nature morte aux fleurs, 1999**  
Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1999'  
Oil on canvas  
73 x 100 cm - 28.7 x 39.4 in.

Provenance  
Private collection

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by  
a certificate of authenticity

**Cœurs de Marie, 1999**

Signed and dated 'Bernard Buffet 1999'

Oil on canvas

73 x 54 cm - 28.7 x 21.3 in.

Provenance  
Private collection

Certificate  
This work is accompanied by a certificate of authenticity





© Galerie Maurice Garnier

## Selected Exhibitions and Retrospectives

- 1958** Bernard Buffet at the Galerie Charpentier in Paris, France
- 1958** Bernard Buffet at the Institut Français of Berlin, Germany
- 1959** Bernard Buffet at the Casino of Knokke-le-Zoute, Belgium
- 1963** Bernard Buffet at the Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo, Japan
- 1969** Bernard Buffet at the Musée Unterlinden in Colmar, France
- 1977** Bernard Buffet at the Gemeentemuseum of Wieger Deurne, Holland
- 1978** Bernard Buffet at the Musée de la Poste of Paris, France
- 1985** Bernard Buffet at the Réfectoire des Jacobins of Toulouse, France
- 1987** Bernard Buffet at the Odakyu Museum in Tokyo, Japan
- 1991** Bernard Buffet at the Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts in Moscow, Russia
- 1991** Bernard Buffet at the State Hermitage Museum in Saint-Petersburg, Russia
- 1991** Bernard Buffet at the Gallery Hyundai in Seoul, Korea
- 1993** Bernard Buffet at the Musée Gustave Courbet in Ornans, France
- 1994** Bernard Buffet at the Documenta-Halle in Kassel, Germany
- 1995** Bernard Buffet at the Odakyu Museum in Tokyo, Japan
- 1996** Bernard Buffet at the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, Taiwan
- 2009** Bernard Buffet at the Centre de la Vieille Charité in Marseille, France
- 2010** Bernard Buffet at the Galerie Pascale Froessel in Strasbourg, France
- 2012** Bernard Buffet at the Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, France
- 2012** Tribute to Bernard Buffet at the Atelier Gabrielle in Salernes, France
- 2012** Bernard Buffet, engraver, at the Musée Yves Brayer in Les Baux-de-Provence, France

## Selected Public Collections

- Boca Raton Museum of Art, Florida, USA
- Musée d'Art Moderne, Lille, France
- National Gallery for Foreign Art, Sofia, Bulgaria
- National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Canada
- National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo, Japan
- Tampere Art Museum, Tampere, Finland
- Museum of Contemporary Art, Skopje, Macedonia
- Bernard Buffet Museum, Tokyo, Japan

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[www.operagallery.com](http://www.operagallery.com)