

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, artist (*24.11.1864 Albi, +9.9.1901 Saint-André-du-Bois)



Title	Les Deux Amies
Also known as	Zwei Freundinnen The Two Friends
Date	1895
Medium	Gouache on cardboard
Dimensions	image: 64.5 x 84 cm
Signature	inscr. b. r.: HTLautrec [<u>underlined</u>]
Inscription	-
Catalogue raisonné	Dortu P. 602
Edition / number	-
Edition	-
Inv. No.	BU 0106
Credit line	Emil Bührle Collection, on long term loan at Kunsthaus Zürich
Accession year	2021
Object type	painting
Classification	C 1[2] painting 19th century FRA
Description	<p>They say love knows no boundaries; love also knows no gender. Platonic love, romantic love, sexual love; love is heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, polysexual, pansexual, asexual. Love is.</p> <p>Toulouse-Lautrec, drawn to Parisian nightlife and the red-light milieu throughout his life, is sometimes known today for his depictions of queer couples. Often portraying sex workers, his subjects were as revolutionary as they were controversial for the time. The two persons spend an intimate moment together; hidden between bales of hay, they are protected from the male gaze and the obligation that comes with it. Sex turns from mandatory to voluntary, from work to pleasure. The artist's careful and considerate treatment of those depicted, with whom he was often friends, breaks away from the traditionally objectified perspective and leads into a new century.</p>
Provenance	<p>The digitisation of the inventory of the Kunsthaus is an ongoing work in progress. Due to the time-consuming nature of comprehensive scientific research on each individual artwork, we have decided to disclose some works also without provenance information to the public. The progression of provenance research will be continuously updated online. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at</p>

provenanceresearch(at)kunsthau.ch.

Provenance category -

About the provenance

Literature

- Die Sammlung Emil Bührle. Geschichte, Gesamtkatalog und 70 Meisterwerke, hrsg. vom Schweizerischen Institut für Kunstwissenschaft (SIK-ISEA), München: Hirmer, 2021, No. 388, S. 276 (ill.).
- Sammlung Emil G. Bührle. Festschrift zu Ehren von Emil G. Bührle zur Eröffnung des Kunsthaus-Neubaus und Katalog der Sammlung Emil G. Bührle, hrsg. von Kunsthaus Zürich, Sammlungskatalog Kunsthaus Zürich, Zürich, 1958, No. 205, S. 122 (ill.).
- Impressionists in Paper. Degas to Toulouse-Lautrec, hrsg. von Christopher Lloyd/Ann Dumas/Leïla Jarbouai, Ausst.-Kat. Royal Academy of Arts, London, 2023, No. 63, S. 128.