PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

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Picasso The Lithographic Work. A Catalogue Raisonné. Volume II. 1949-1969.   310 pages. Fully illustrated.
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By Fernand Mourlot. Revised by the Picasso Project.

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Picasso produced his first lithograph in 1919, about the time he turned 38 years of age. Between 1919 and 1930 the artist made a total of 27 lithographs for various publishers. Picasso met Fernand Mourlot, the printer and publisher of lithographs, around August, 1945, through an introduction from Georges Braque. Mourlot was already a principal lithographer for the School of Paris artists. By November, 1945 Picasso and Mourlot had already completed the first post-1930 lithograph, entitled *Woman's Head* (M. 1). By the end of 1945, the collaboration resulted in an additional 29 lithographs, several in multiple states.

Fernand Mourlot wrote and published the first volume of his catalogue raisonné on the master's lithographs, *Picasso Lithographe I, 1919-1947*, *in* 1949. This volume catalogued 101 lithographs, many in multiple states. The second volume of Mourlot's catalogue was published by the author in 1950, *Picasso Lithographe II, 1947-1949.* This volume catalogued an additional 105 works (M. 75-179) covering the period March, 1947 to April, 1949.

The third volume of Mourlot's catalogue, *Picasso Lithographe III, 1949-1956*, appeared in 1956. This volume catalogued an additional 91 works (M. 180-270), covering the period April, 1949 to April, 1956. The fourth and final volume of the original four volume French language edition was published in 1964 and covered the period 1956 to 1962, with a few additions from earlier periods. This revised edition incorporates and expands upon the foregoing four catalogues.

In 1970 Mourlot compiled a one volume composite edition of the 4 previous French language catalogues, which was published by André Sauret, Monte-Carlo. This volume appeared in French and English language editions, the latter published in the USA by Boston Book and Art. The composite edition catalogued a further 51 lithographs (M. 357 – 407), covering the period October, 1960 to February, 1969.

Pablo Picasso died on April 8, 1973 in Mougins and was buried at his Château de Vauvenargues two days later. His estate was settled around 1979 and the 20,000 prints that remained in his possession were distributed to the French State and the artist's heirs.

Since 1973, there have been a number of additional catalogues by other authors on the artist's lithographs. There have also been important public sales by the estates of Picasso and Mourlot. The catalogues for the various exhibitions, private collections and auction sales contained new information on the lithographs, including variant states and a few uncatalogued by Mourlot. As an example, the 2003 Christie's sale of lithographs from Mourlot's estate explained that Picasso and Mourlot originally used stones for printing the lithographs and the printer and artist would retain 18 proof impressions of each state. After changing to zinc plates, Mourlot and the artist retained 6 proof impressions of each state. Mourlot had never alluded to more than 5 proof impressions in the earlier catalogues.

This new catalogue appears in 2 volumes and incorporates all of the relevant scholarship and findings from previous catalogues. It also translates the Mourlot and Sabartés texts from the original French language editions for the first time. A chronology by Eberhard Kornfeld which appeared in the catalogue for his major exhibition in Bern, Switzerland of prints by Picasso in 1982 is also translated into English for the first time. There is also a concordance to the other standard reference books on the artist's prints and books illustrated with original graphics.