



Wind, Maine

Date

c. 1917 (dated 1916)

Primary Maker

John Marin

Medium

Watercolor and graphite on paper

Description

John Marin is recognized as an important American modernist for his accomplishments in both painting and printmaking. Before spending time in Europe from 1905 to 1909—as was considered necessary to the education of any American artist at the time—he studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in

Philadelphia and at the Art Students' League in New York City. Marin first visited the wilds of Maine in 1914—"one fierce, relentless, cruel, beautiful, fascinating, hellish, and all the other ish'es place"—and returned almost annually until his death. There, like Winslow Homer before him, he was able to adopt Maine's forests, mountains, and coasts as subjects for his expressive watercolors, which he had been creating since he was eighteen years old. In *Wind, Maine*, the artist conveyed whitecaps atop the crests of waves on a gusty day by leaving areas of the paper on which he was painting exposed. Marin once advised that, when painting a body of water, one should "make the hand move the way the water moves," as evidenced by the fluid strokes seen here. Fred L. Palmer, Class of 1923, gave *Wind, Maine* to Hamilton College in 1962, soon after the founding of the Edward W. Root Art Center. Palmer was one of its main proponents and organizers and did much to further the arts on campus. Marin was represented at the end of his life by Edith Gregor Halpert, owner of the Downtown Gallery in New York City, whose collection was the subject of an exhibition at the Root in 1960. (SOURCE: Alcauskas, *INNOVATIVE APPROACHES, HONORED TRADITIONS*, 2017)

Dimensions

Sheet: 16 1/4 × 19 1/2 in. (41.3 × 49.5 cm) Frame: 22 7/8 × 28 7/8 × 2 in. (58.1 × 73.3 × 5.1 cm)