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Joaquín Sorolla y Bastida
Playa de Zarauz, 1910

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JOAQUÍN SOROLLA Y BASTIDA

(Valencia 1863 – Madrid 1923)

PLAYA DE ZARAUZ, 1910

Oil on canvas

62 x 92 cm; 24 3/8 x 36 1/4 in.

Signed lower right 'J. Sorolla B.'

Provenance

Sorolla's Testament, Series D, No. 56, winter 1929 (as "Playa de Zarauz");

María Sorolla García (1889-1956);

Eggert Collection, Zurich, c.1937;

Private Collection, Barcelona.

Literature

I. Moreno Ruiz De Eguino, *Sorolla en Gipuzkoa*, exh. cat. San Sebastián, 1992, reproduced p. 312.

B. Pons-Sorolla, *Catálogo razonado de Joaquín Sorolla y Bastida*, Madrid, Fundación Caja Madrid, 2001, p. 363, no. 223.

Exhibition History

San Sebastián, *Sorolla en Gipuzkoa*, Fundación Kutxa, Donostia, 1992.

Madrid, *A la playa. El mar como tema de la modernidad en la pintura española, 1870 – 1936*, Fundación Cultural Mapfre Vida, 2000.

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We would like to thank Blanca Pons-Sorolla for the information provided for the cataloguing of the above artwork.

In 1910, Joaquín Sorolla and his family spend their summer in the coastal town of Zarauz in Gipuzkoa, a popular destination among the aristocracy and high society at the time. Here, the artist paints numerous original scenes of tavern interiors, charged with critical social meaning, alongside which Sorolla captures serene and fleeting familiar moments in soothing beach scenes. Such representations seldom witness the interruption of the protagonism and continuity of the natural landscape by the quiet human presence.

In the above oil on canvas, *Playa de Zarauz*, the Sorolla family members emerge from the pastel palette of the shoreline and the delicate clouds of rose pink via tints of dark browns and blues. In this work, the depicted figures belonging to the artist's intimate circle. On the foreground, Sorolla's spouse Clotilde García del Castillo is represented. She is accompanied by their children, by her sister Concha Sorolla and probably by her sister-in-law Pepita García del Castillo.

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