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Questionnaire III

Questionnaire III. To Mme Georges Duthuit (Marguerite Matisse), April 1950. Same questions as in II. Answered directly in writing.

from Barr, Matisse. His Art and His Public, 1951 p. 529.

"QIII" comprises responses given by Mme Georges Duthuit to the same questions as "QII".

In March 1950, Monroe Wheeler gave a copy of the questionnaire he then had (QII) to Mme Duthuit (see Monroe Wheeler letters to AHB, Jr dated 11 March 1950, 19 March 1950 and 22 April 1950, now in QII file). M. Wheeler's 22 April 1950 letter to AHB, Jr reports "Marguerite is still working on your questionnaire -- has put it all in chronological order and has written her father a 12 page letter to jog his memory -- she says she worked three weeks doing research on it." (see QII file.)

On 29 April 1950, Mme Duthuit writes to "Cher Monsieur" (probably M. Wheeler), "Recevant à l'instant certaines précisions demandées à Matisse par répondre au questionnaire que vous m'avez laissé, je pourrai vous remettre ce papier à partir de mercredi prochain." (Her 29 April 1950 letter is attached to QIII).

Beatrice Kernan
2-28-89

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III

M. et Mme Duthuit
April 1950

HENRI MATISSE:

- ✓ 1. Full name: Henri Emile Benoit Matisse.
- ✓ 2. Father's name : Emile Hypolite Henri Matisse
- ✓ Mother's name : Anna Héloïse GERARD
3. How is it that Matisse was born at Le Cateau when his parents' home was at Bohain?
 - ✓ His parents lived at Bohain-en-Vermandois, but he was born at the home of his maternal grandparents, at Le-Cateau-Cambresis.
4. In what year did Matisse go to Paris to study law?
 - 2 M: 1887 *avocat lawyer*
 - ✓ In 1888, to work for a diploma, entitling him to become an *attorney* avoué, *politician* not an avocat (the difference should be made clear in American legal terminology), at the University of Paris.
- ✓ 5. In what year did he return from Paris to St. Quentin, to work as an avoué's clerk?
 - in 1889.
- ✓ 6. His first painting, 1890, was a still-life, "Les Livres" (signed with the anagram "Essitam"). *which - of 2. + Dale*
- ✓ 7. At the Ecole Quentin La Tour he studied neither fabric nor tapestry designing. He worked there at Professor Croisé's morning drawing-classes, from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m.
 - This was from 1889 to 1891.
- ✓ 8. He gave up law for painting at the beginning of 1892.
- ✓ 9. When did Matisse go to Lille? Before getting to know Gustave Moreau?
 - Yes. One visit, at the time when he was at the Académie Julian, atelier Bouguereau and Gabriel Ferrier.
- ✓ 10. Was it in 1892 or 1893 that he became acquainted with Gustave Moreau?
 - Matisse worked with Moreau for 5 years, from 1892 to 1897, and considers him to have been his only real teacher.
- ✓ 11. Rouault was already in Moreau's studio when Matisse first went there.

SALON "NATIONALE":

- ✓ 12. In 1896, Matisse exhibited 4 paintings at the Exposition Nationale, including the "Nature-morte au couteau noir" bought by M. Thenard for 125 francs, and the "Liseuse", bought by the State and now in the Château de Rambouillet?

Yes.

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- ✓ 13. Matisse was elected an Associate of the "Nationale" in 1896, at the end of the exhibition.
- ✓ 14. As to the 5 paintings that Matisse exhibited at the "Nationale" of 1897, it is not possible -- save by a process of elimination for which no starting-point is readily available -- to determine what picture corresponds to each of the five catalogue-numbers (881-885).
- ✓ 15. What number was the big Desserte (now in the Robinson collection at Hollywood)?

This picture was exhibited in 1897, as one of the canvases that Matisse was entitled to show by right of being a "sociétaire" of the Salon Nationale -- an "hors concours" exhibit.

IN WHAT PLACES DID MATISSE WORK IN THE YEARS 1898-99 ... is the following information correct:-

- ✓ 16. Matisse went to London in 1898 before visiting Corsica?
- Yes, for a few days, in January 1898; he visited the museums and paid particular attention to Turner.
17. He went to Corsica in the autumn of 1897?
- ✓ ? × No. From February to July 1898 he visited Ajaccio, Corsica.
- ✓ Z × From August 1898 to February 1899, he visited Fenouillet and Toulouse, Haute-Garonne.
18. Matisse has never worked in Perpignan. His first visit to Collioure took place in 1904.
- ✓ 19. × He returned to Paris in February 1899.
- ✓ And worked at the Beaux-Arts, at Cormon's studio, with Marquet and Biette?
- ✓ Yes, in 1899.
- Cormon asked him to leave?
- ✓ Yes.
20. Then worked at the Académie Julian....
- × M: ✓ × No, that was earlier (see No. 9, above) *Laprade, Biette, Puy*
21. Then at the Académie Carrière, where he met Derain and others -- all this before 1900?
- ? × No, it was at the end of 1900 that he went to Carrière's studio. *M: before 1900*
22. Was it in 1900 or in 1901 that the Académie Carrière closed?
- ✓ In 1901.

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- ✓ 23. When did Matisse work at the Ecole de la Ville de Paris, Rue Etienne-Marcel?
 X In 1899. *M: 1900 - 8 to 10 evenings after a day's work*
- ✓ 24. And in Biette's studio? *- M: after Carrière's school*
 In 1901.
- ✓ 25. Did he work at Bohain in 1903 (as Escholier states) or in 1902?
 In 1902 and 1903.

FIRST SCULPTURES:

- ✓ 26. When did Matisse go to see Rodin?
 While he was working at Carrière's Académie. *winter of 1900-1901 (M. says 1900)*
- ✓ 27. Was it after that that he made Le Cerf? *M. no, during*
- ✓ 28. When was Matisse working in Bourdelle's studio? *M: while working on Le Solf*
 Around 1902.
- ✓ And at the Grande Chaumière?
 Around 1900.
29. When did he make the acquaintance of Maillol?
 While staying at Collioure in 1905.
30. Was his first sculpture, the Jaguar, begun in 1899, before he had met Maillol?
 Yes, since it dates from 1900.
- ✓ 31. Was it in 1899, that is to say, before the 1900 World Exhibition, that Matisse bought Cézanne's Baigneuses, Rodin's Rochefort, and Gauguin's Tête de Tahitien? *cf. M. quote*
 Yes.

EXHIBITION OF MOSLEM ART

32. Cassou says Matisse visited the Exposition d'Art Musulman at the Palais de l'Industrie in 1893 ...
- ???
 33. Barnes says Matisse went to Munich in 1903, to see the Moslem Exhibition.
 Yes.
34. Barr says Matisse had his first sight of an exhibition of Moslem art in Paris, at the Pavillon de Marsan, in 1903 ...
 No.

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35. Swane says Matisse saw the Moslem Exhibition in Munich in 1910 ...

? X No.

NEO-IMPRESSIONISM:

36. Did Matisse begin to use the neo-Impressionist method in 1900 after reading Signac's De Delacroix au Néo-impressionnisme?

dm. Matisse used the neo-impressionist method after the summer of 1904, which he spent at St. Tropez.

✓ 37. Was Matisse interested by the Signac exhibition in the Bing gallery in June 1902?

✓ He did not visit it.

38. When and where did Matisse come to know H. E. Cross?

✓ When staying at St. Tropez, in the summer of 1904.

✓? 39. Matisse was at St. Tropez in the summer of 1904, with Signac. Were his first neo-impressionist pictures painted then? M: oui

? No. When he got back to Paris in the autumn. of M: - important

40. Would it not be correct to say that Matisse had two "pointilliste" periods, in 1900 and in 1904?

No. In 1900 he painted by touches of color, but without applying the principles of division.

LUXE, CALME ET VOLUPTÉ:

41. Sambat (série N.R.F., 1920) says that Luxe, Calme et Volupté was hung in Signac's dining-room in his house, La Hune, at St. Tropez. Was this in 1904?

? No. The picture was painted early in 1905.

42. Which version of Luxe was shown at the Salon des Indépendants in 1905: the one that is now in the Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris, or the one at Copenhagen?

? This is not Luxe at all, but Luxe, Calme et Volupté again.

43. Was the first version of Luxe, in the Musée d'Art Moderne, painted at Saint-Tropez in 1904, etc. ...

No. It was painted at Collioure in 1907.

Matisse indicated: 1st version painted at Collioure autumn 1904; second, Paris, winter 1905

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44. Was the second version of Luxe (Copenhagen) painted in 1905, or in 1906?

No

Was it exhibited in the Salon d'Automne, 1907?

No. It was painted in 1911.

MOROSOV, STCHUKINE:

✓ 45. How and where did Matisse get to know Stchukine?

In Paris. Stchukine came to see him of his own accord, and later brought Morosov to see him. *q n.*

✓ 46. Did Matisse advise Morosov to buy the Cézanne, Jeune fille au piano, 1868, from Vollard in 1907?

No.

q M: sometimes advised Stchukine but never Morosov who didn't ask him

✓ Does Matisse remember this picture, which is not in Moscow?

No.

TRAVELS, 1905-1911:

✓ ? 47. When did Matisse first visit Italy?

In 1907.

✓ ? Did he visit other towns as well as Venice and Florence?

Padua and Siena.

M: Siena at Coraggio

X Did he go to Algiers during the same trip?

No.

M. oui

Did he, while in Italy, paint any other pictures besides the Venise, Dame sur une terrasse, which is now in Moscow?

? ✓ ✓ That picture was painted at Collioure in 1906. Matisse never did any painting in Venice.

BERLIN:

48. In what year did Matisse visit Berlin with Furrmann for the exhibition at the Paul Cassirer Gallery?

In 1909.

GERMANY:

49. When he went to Moscow in 1910, did he visit Furrmann in Munich? *M: non*

No, but he paid a visit to Munich about that time.

Did he visit Nuremberg? Yes.

Cologne? No.

50. Did he visit Osthaus at Hagen? Yes.

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51. When did von Tschudi buy the Nature-morte au Géranium which later (1912) want to the Munich Gallery?

In 1912.

CAVALIERE:

52. Did Matisse go to Cavalière in the summer of 1909 and 1910?

No, only in 1909.

MOROCCO:

53. In the winter of 1911-12, Matisse went to Morocco. With whom?

With his wife.

Did he stop in Seville? No. (He had stayed at Seville in 1910-11)

Or in any other Spanish town? No.

54. In 1912-13, Matisse went to Morocco again. Were ~~Cornon~~ and Marquet with him?

No. But while there he met the French painter, Camoin, and the Canadian painter, Morris.

Navice

HARMONIE ROUGE:

55. Was Harmonie Rouge (Moscow) painted as a demonstration of the theories published in the Grande Revue, December 1908 ...?

No.

56. Was this picture started in the spring of 1906? or in the spring of 1909?

In 1909.

57. Was the first version of Harmonie rouge green? No.

Was the second version blue? No. The first version was blue.

58. Was Harmonie rouge painted straight onto the canvas of Harmonie bleu?

Yes.

*Manuscript 001 to questions: 1st version green? 001
second blue? 001 Mr. M. on changes*

LA DANSE:

59. Sembat refers to a second version of La Danse ... "Ample, solennelle et calme." Does this version still exist?

Yes.

Where?

In America.

M.

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60. Where is the large charcoal sketch for La Danse, reproduced as Plate 82 of the catalogue of the Museum of Modern Art, Matisse, 1931?

In a private collection; but it is a small sketch (the catalogue gives incorrect measurements).

THE BARNES MURALS:

61. Is it true that the first version of these murals could not be used, because Matisse had been given the wrong measurements?

✓ Yes.

THE CHAPEL AT VENCE:

62. Stained-glass windows inspired by a description of the Heavenly Jerusalem in the Apocalypse?

This is true of a first version, which was given up. The final version is the Tree of Life.

VISITS TO THE UNITED STATES:

March 1930: Matisse crossed the U. S., to get to Oceania.

Sept. 1930: The Carnegie Jury.

Jan. 1931: Visit to America in connection with the Barnes murals.

May, 1933: Visit for the installation of the murals.

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le 29 avril, 1950.

Cher Monsieur,

Recevant à l'instant certaines précisions demandées à Matisse pour répondre au questionnaire que vous m'aviez laissé, je pourrai vous remettre ce papier à partir de mercredi prochain. Soyez assez aimable pour me fixer par téléphone le moment où vous pourriez passer le prendre.

Croyez, cher Monsieur, à mes sentiments très distingués.

Georges Duthuit