Photogravure - La Ville

Object: Photogravure

Place of origin: France (made)

Date: 1931 (made)

Artist/Maker: Man Ray, born 1890 - died 1976 (maker)
Compagnie Parisienne de Distribution de l'Eléctricité (publishers)

Materials and Techniques: Photogravure

Credit Line: Purchased with Art Fund support and the Friends of the V&A

Museum number: E.1651-2001

Gallery location: Prints & Drawings Study Room, level F, case X, shelf 970, box B

Public access description

Man Ray was a master of experimental photographic techniques. In the 1930s, he participated in the Surrealist avant-garde and worked as a fashion photographer for Vogue. He famously declared, 'I photograph the things that I do not wish to paint, the things which already have an existence.' In this multiple exposure photograph of neon advertising signs, which he allegedly took while travelling through central Paris in a taxi, he captured the speed and vitality of the modern city.

Descriptive line

'La Ville', from the portfolio Electricité, 1931 by Man Ray (born Emmanuel Radnitzky, Philadelphia, 1890, died Paris 1976)

Physical description

Black and white photogravure; multiple exposures of neon advertising signs in central Paris.

Dimensions


Museum number

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URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O66887/la-ville-photogravure-man-ray/