

**Fernand LÉGER (1881-1955)**

*Les Amoureux, Étude pour Mes voyages—La Ville de Blaise Cendrars, c. 1954*

Ink on paper

Artwork accompanied by a certificate of authenticity issued by the Comité Léger. Annotated lower right: "l'œuvre authentique de F. Léger / N. Léger"

Inscription in ink on the reverse: "D. 487 – Les Amoureux, study for La Ville"  
45 x 33 cm 71 x 58.8 cm (with frame)







This work is a variation study for plate 7 of the *La Ville* (later *Ma Ville*) portfolio (see Saphire, p. 238), originally conceived for the publication planned by Tériade, Paris, in 1959. As the editorial project evolved, this study ultimately served as the basis for a lithograph published in the portfolio *Mes Voyages* in 1960.

### Historical Context

In 1954, the publisher and patron Tériade initiated an ambitious project with Fernand Léger and Blaise Cendrars: to celebrate Paris, a shared source of inspiration, through a deluxe book combining text and lithographs. A substantial advance was provided, and the two collaborators explored Montparnasse, the Moulin Rouge and their favourite Parisian neighbourhoods to develop the project.

After Léger's sudden death in 1955 in Gif-sur-Yvette, as the book was nearing completion, a change of course by Cendrars led to the abandonment of the original literary concept. The study presented here was eventually reworked and published as a lithograph in *Mes Voyages* in 1960: a very limited edition now of considerable rarity.



e'œuvre  
authentique  
de F. Leges  
N. Leges

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D 487 - Les amoureux - Etude pour "la Ville" 45x33.