

# OSBORNE SAMUEL

MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART

**Clough, Prunella (1919 - 1999)**



***Breakwater*, 1946**

Chalk and gouache on paper  
Signed lower right  
35.5 x 20.5 cm. (14 x 8 in.)

OSBORNE SAMUEL LTD

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Provenance:

Peter Meyer, UK  
Private Collection UK

Exhibited:

Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, Prunella Clough 'Retrospective Exhibition', Sept - Oct 1960, no: 156

Description:

During the 1940s Clough drew a good deal of inspiration from the beach at Southwold, to which she escaped whenever she could. Long walks alone along the tide line provided an opportunity to gather both her thoughts and interesting collection of *objets trouvés* for her paintings. The flotsam and jetsam brought in by the tide provided endless stimulus for her painting. A gnarled old tree root, a piece of worn driftwood or washed-up bones would trigger a process of creativity. Sometimes she assembled these objects into still life arrangements sitting on a rock or breakwater or, at other times, a single object was symbolically rich enough to form a painting.

A lone form dislocated within in a landscape was also a theme which several other painters were exploring at the time, including Sutherland and the Neo-Romantics Vaughan, Minton and Craxton. In Clough's case these objects, bought by chance into the landscape, were undergoing a transformation at the hands of raw nature – tide and time, sun and wind were eroding and bleaching them as a natural process of decay was taking place. Her paintings became emblematic of passing time or functioned like traditional *memento mori* images.

£12,500.00 + ARR



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