

Daniel Katz Gallery

ANTIQUITY TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY



Algernon Cecil Newton (London 1880 - 1968)

The Pink Cloud

Circa: 1947

1947

oil on canvas

86 x 122 cm (33 7/8 x 48 inches)

Monogrammed and dated lower left

A painter of urban scenes and landscapes, Algernon Newton was born in Hampstead, London. He studied at the London School of Art, Kensington and his first one-man show was held at the Leicester Galleries in

1931. In 1923, Newton began to exhibit regularly at the Royal Academy summer shows and he continued to send paintings there for several decades. He always admired the slightly forlorn Regency and early Victorian terraces that faced the London canals in Notting Hill, Maida Vale and Deptford and gave them a curiously uninhabited look. Despite the grand buildings and great streets that were at his disposal, it was to the neglected waterways that he turned from the 1920s onwards. He once wrote: 'There is beauty to be found in everything, you only have to search for it; a gasometer can make as beautiful a picture as a palace on the Grand Canal, Venice. It simply depends on the artist's vision.'

The gritty, urban landscape seen through Newton's eyes becomes picturesque, serene, and captivating. Often referred to as the 'Canaletto of the canals', Newton was celebrated for his ability to infuse urban scenes with a calm, contemplative atmosphere - a skill honed through his training at the Slade School of Fine Art and the London School of Art in Kensington. Newton recorded and interpreted on canvas the industrial and technological changes of his era, capturing the transformation of the urban landscape. His connection to the Royal Academy began early, exhibiting for the first time in 1903 while still a student.

Over the years, his reputation grew, leading to his election as an Associate of the Royal Academy in 1936 and as a full member in 1943. In 1980, the Royal Academy hosted a retrospective exhibition of his work. Reviewing his career, Newton once observed: 'I felt I had to try to create something in every picture I painted, a mood, a mental atmosphere, a sentiment.'

Provenance

Purchased by Mr & Mrs Peto from The Fine Art Society, 1948

by descent to J.B.M. Peto son of above to 2013

Daniel Katz Limited

Private Collection, New York, to 2026