



Nude Figure by Firelight

Date

c. 1909

Primary Maker

Guy Rose

Medium

Oil on canvas

Description

Guy Rose's 1909 "Nude Figure by Firelight" depicts a nude female figure backlit by a fireplace. Its subject is a variant of the popular Impressionist theme of figures seen in various kinds of lighting, e.g., full sunlight, dappled sunlight, and indoors with various kinds of backlighting.

Note how the backlighting creates a halo around the

figure in this work. Nudes were rarely painted in Southern California in the early years as patrons were generally very conservative. Roy C. Rose, nephew of the artist, said this was a favorite French model of the artist, and has potentially been identified as "Berthe,". She was painted by Guy Rose numerous times. He dates the work as 1908-1910, probably painted in Giverny, France and brought back to L.A. Roy C. Rose has a very similar work with a slightly different turn of the head, different brick treatment on fireplace, and a robe more detailed with a "thicker" treatment of blue paint.

Dimensions

24 × 19 5/8 in. (61 × 49.8 cm) Framed: 33 × 29 × 1 1/2 in. (83.8 × 73.7 × 3.8 cm)