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Bathers at Swanage



Bathers at Swanage, Eustace Nash (1887–1969), 1920s (oil on canvas)

Painted in attractive, fresh colours, this image of four relaxed young women in summer clothing and bathing costumes seems entirely characteristic of the 1920s. Along with Sandbanks, Studland had become a very popular place for bathing. Across Poole Bay can be seen the cliffs of the Isle of Wight to the right, and cliffs beyond Bournemouth and Christchurch to the left.

The artist Eustace Nash trained at the Drummond Road Art School in Bournemouth. He became a successful commercial artist and was a cartoonist on the Bournemouth Graphic newspaper for a number of years. Nash was a prolific painter, working mainly in oils and watercolours, and local landscapes were a favourite subject. His work was frequently exhibited at the Royal Academy as well as at the exhibitions of local art groups, on which he often reported for the newspaper.

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