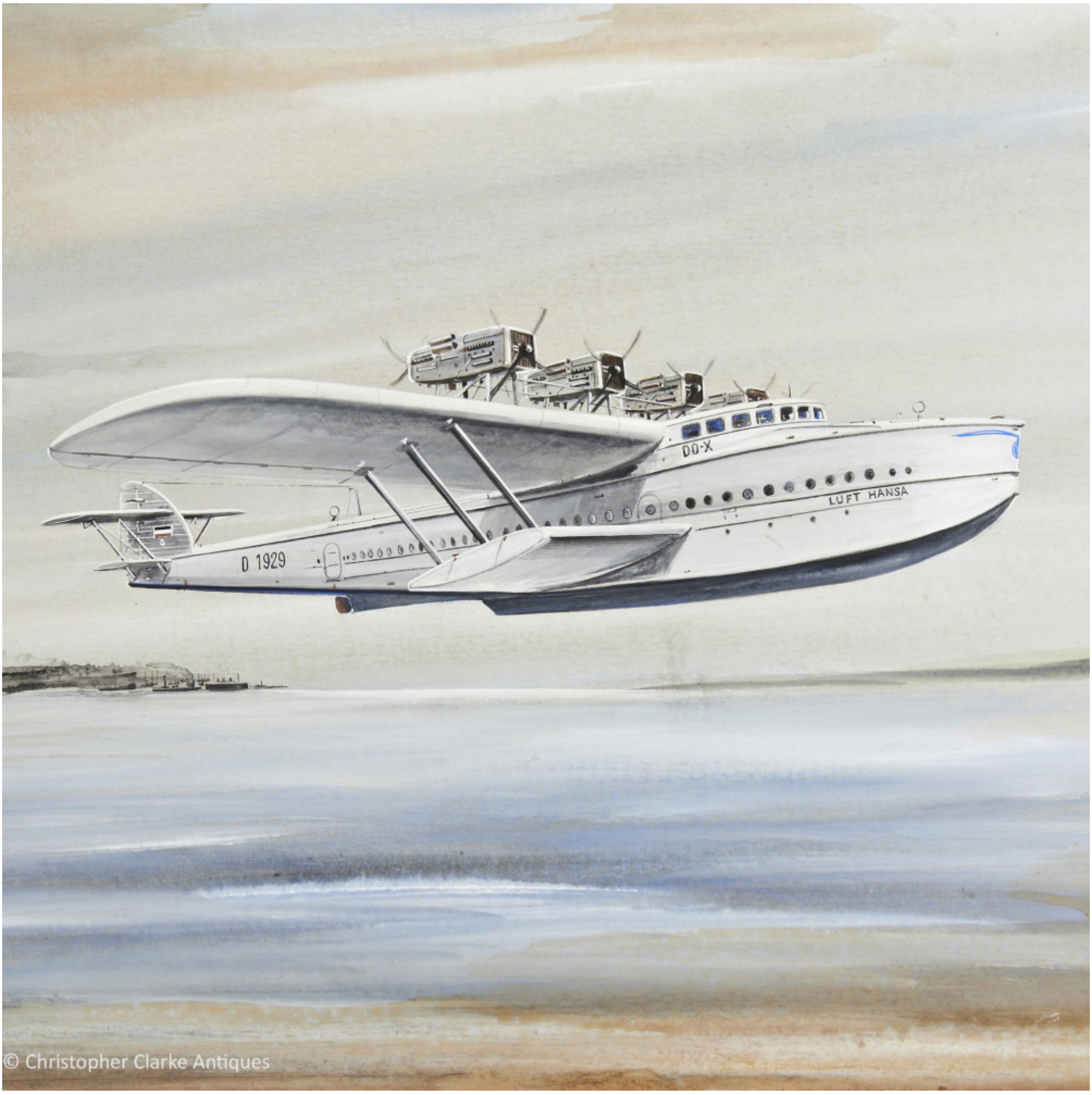
Dornier Do X Seaplane by J.M. Page

J.M. Page

Sold



REF: 83931

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Height: 39.35 cm (15.5")

Width: 53.95 cm (21.2")

Description

A watercolour and gouache on board of a Dornier Do X seaplane at Southampton by J.M. Page.

A label to the back of the picture states 'World Largest Flying Ship, German Dornier D.O.X, Visit Southampton Water, 1920'. It also has the initials 'WJ. P' and 'Page' written below. Written directly to the back of the board is 'Plane (or Plate) 16. One of II s, Dox C Motor, " " R " (Dox R Motor).

Claude Dornier's Do X seaplane was the world's largest when it was completed in 1929, after 4 years of work. It was an all metal construction with 12 'push-pull engines' mounted on the top of the wing. Interestingly, Page only drew it with 10 engines. The 12 throttles of the engines were not controlled by the pilot but by a flight engineer acting on the pilot's instruction. Only three Do X seaplanes were ever produced. It caused great excitement when first produced, partly generated by flying the plane to several European countries, including England where the Prince of Wales was allowed to pilot it, before crossing the Atlantic to Brazil on to New York. The size of the plane meant a long take off and slow climb to altitude. The large number of passengers it could take, 66 on a long or 100 on a short haul, and the luxury it gave them were popular but accidents and the economic climate of the time made it less commercially appealing.

Page has captured the Luft Hansa Do X well, despite his inaccuracy of the engines. In a similar manner to Wilkinson and other illustrators of the time, the focus is naturally on the plane with the background of the sea and port with ships etc. quickly painted in a loose manner. Page has signed his work to the bottom right. Dated 1930 to the back label.

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