



Rose Cecil O'Neill

Title

Gas

Medium

Ink on paper

Date

1905

Dimensions

22 × 15 1/4 in. (55.9 × 38.7 cm)

Accession number

89.20.3

Credit Line

Purchased with Museum funds, 1989

Web Description

Captioned: Mrs. Gadder — "John you told me you were at home every night thinking of me, while I was in the

mountains." Mr. Gadder — "Y-yes-P-Pet! Mrs. Gadder — "Look at this gas bill. Only twenty-seven cents for the months of July and August!" Rose Cecil O'Neill was one of the few women to achieve extraordinary financial success and professional independence in early twentieth-century America through cartooning. Many of her cartoons were created for Puck, Judge, Life, and Harper's magazines and display her distinctively bold, yet fluid, Art Nouveau-inspired style. In 1909, O'Neill introduced readers of The Ladies' Home Journal to "The Kewpies," cherubic cartoon characters that soon became a national craze and spun off lucrative contracts for dolls and other merchandise, as well as a popular syndicated Sunday comic strip.