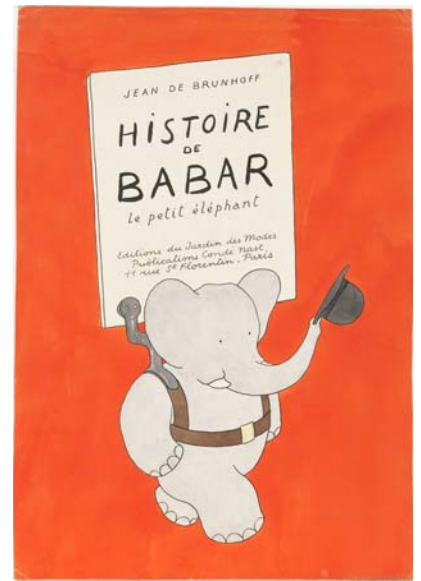
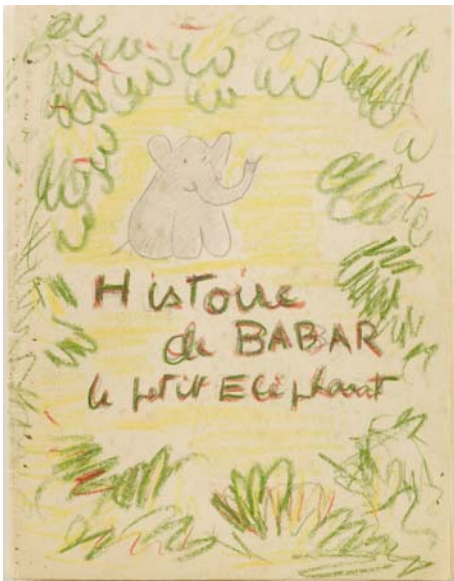


PRESS IMAGES

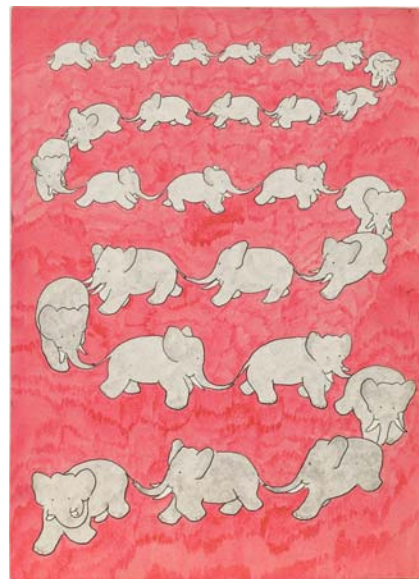
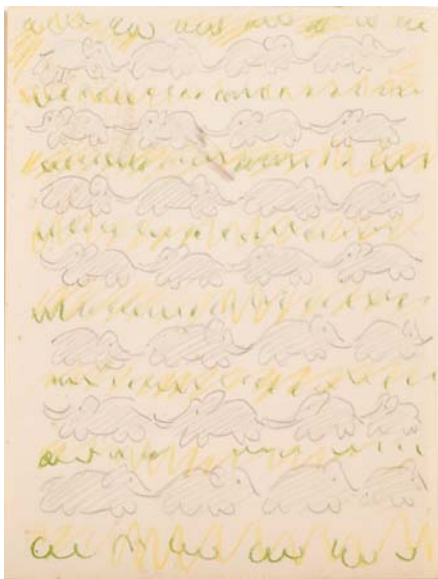
Drawing Babar: Early Drafts and Watercolors

September 19, 2008, through January 4, 2009

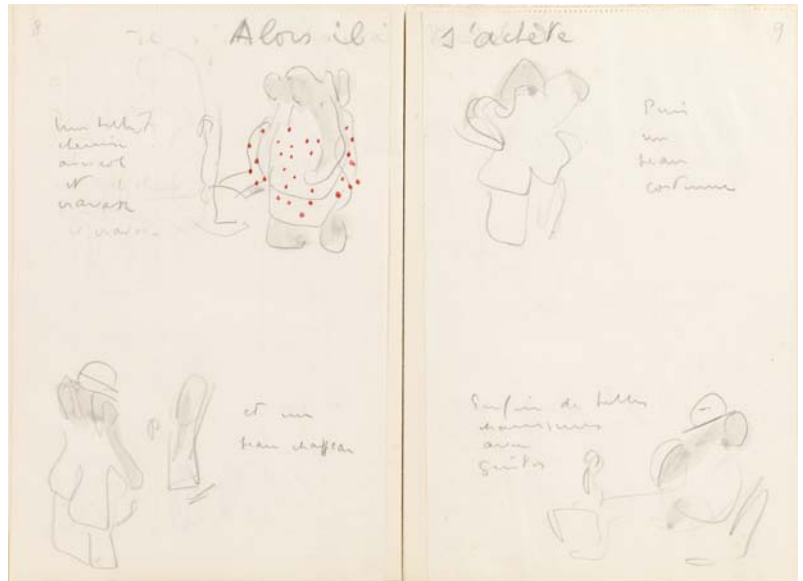
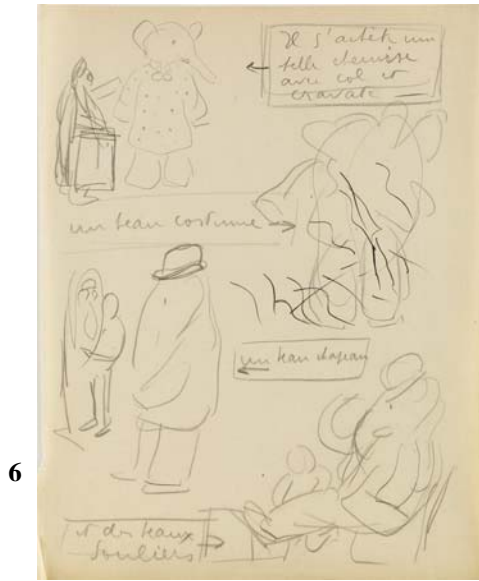
From Jean de Brunhoff's *Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant* (1931)



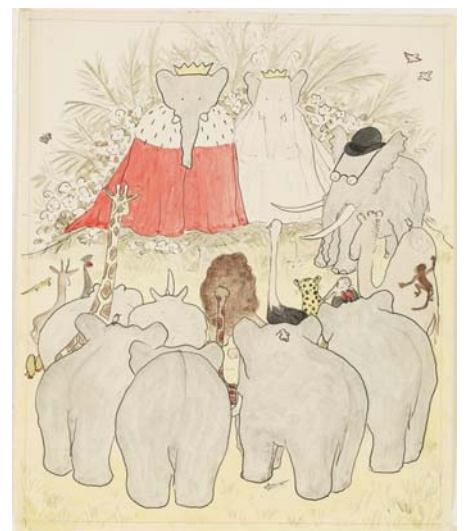
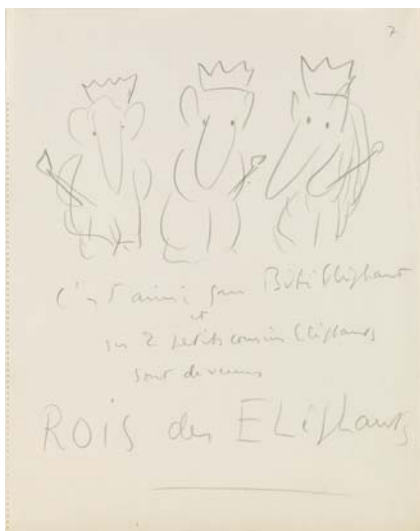
Jean de Brunhoff made these designs for the front and back cover of his maquette (a small booklet) for the first Babar book. The cover for the published book (shown here with a red background) was significantly different from the early concept. (Crayon and graphite studies for the front and back cover and final watercolor for the front cover)



Jean de Brunhoff's maquette for the first Babar book included an early sketch for endpapers showing a chain of elephants linked trunk to tail. His final watercolor retained the concept but substituted a solid background. This endpaper design, with some variation, has continued to be used in the many sequels to *Histoire de Babar*. (Crayon, watercolor and graphite study on and final watercolor)



Then he buys himself . . . a suit of a becoming shade of green.
Pencil studies (top of page) and final watercolors by **Jean de Brunhoff**.



Marriage and coronation of King Babar and Queen Celeste. The character of Celeste did not appear in the earliest drafts of Babar. In the earliest versions, Babar had two boy cousins and all three became king. In the final version, Babar and Celeste were crowned at their wedding. (Pencil study and final watercolor by **Jean de Brunhoff**.)



12

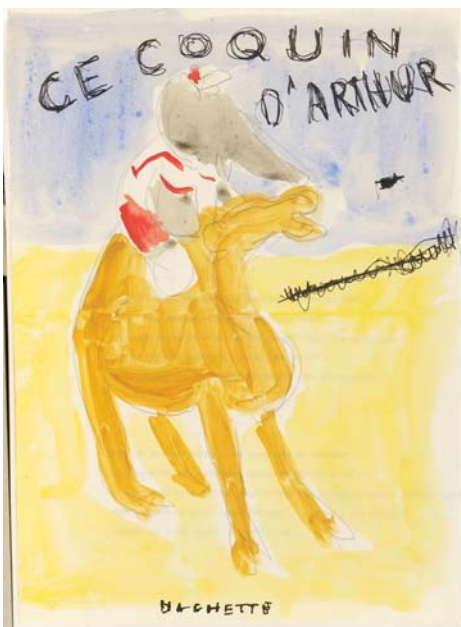
In early drafts for the first Babar book, **Jean de Brunhoff** opened the story with this episode showing the death of Babar's mother. In the published book, he began instead with the reassuring image of Babar's mother rocking him to sleep in a hammock. At this stage in his composition process, Jean had not yet given his protagonist the name "Babar"—he was called simply "Baby Elephant."



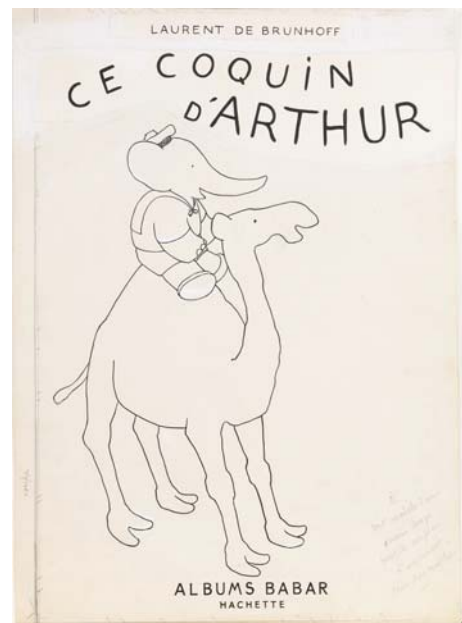
13

This image of Babar, Celeste, and Arthur being carried in triumph was not incorporated into the published version of Babar. The text accompanying the image reveals that **Jean de Brunhoff** was already planning a sequel: "In another book we will describe their continuing adventures."

From Laurent de Brunhoff's *Babar et ce coquin d'Arthur* (1946)



14



15

That Rascal Arthur.
Watercolor study and black line proof for cover by **Laurent de Brunhoff**.



16



17

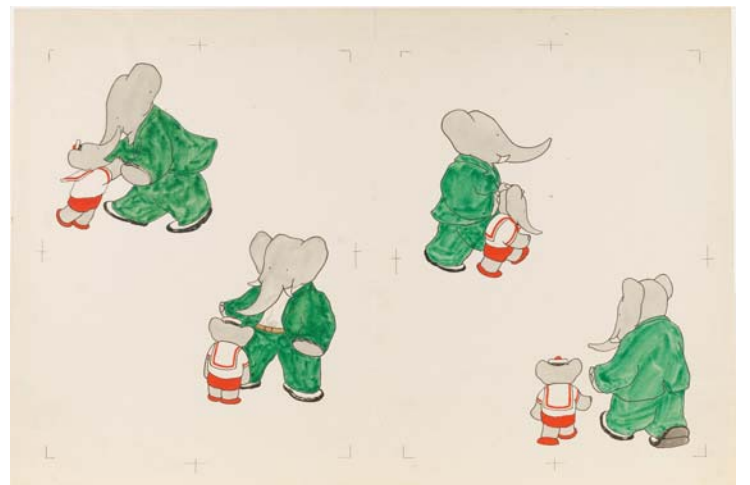
A Magnificent Plane.
Watercolor study and final watercolor by **Laurent de Brunhoff.**



18



19



20

Babar and Arthur Reunite.
Watercolor study and final watercolor by **Laurent de Brunhoff.**



21



22

Moustapha's Feast.
Watercolor study and final watercolor by **Laurent de Brunhoff.**

23



Cécile, Jean, Laurent, and Mathieu de Brunhoff, ca. 1930.
 Photograph: Van Hamel Family Archives.

This family photograph shows Cécile and Jean de Brunhoff with their sons Laurent and Mathieu in the early 1930s, at about the same time they created Babar. Cécile invented the story outline and Jean expanded, wrote, and illustrated it. As an adult, Laurent (at left) would go on to continue the published series.

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Laurent de Brunhoff, 2007.
 Photograph: Phyllis Rose.

Image Captions

Images 1-13

Gift of Laurent, Mathieu, and Thierry de Brunhoff, and purchased with the assistance of The Florence Gould Foundation and the Acquisitions Fund, Fellows Endowment Fund, Gordon N. Ray Fund, and Heineman Fund, 2004.

Images 14-24

Gift of Laurent de Brunhoff, 2004.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)
 <i>Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931</i>
 Preliminary design and layout, front cover
 Wax crayon and graphite
 8 1/4 x 6 1/2 in. (21 x 16 cm)
 The Morgan Library & Museum</p> <p>2. Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)
 <i>Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931</i>
 Preliminary design and layout, back cover
 Wax crayon and graphite
 8 1/4 x 6 1/2 in. (21 x 16 cm)
 The Morgan Library & Museum</p> | <p>3. Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)
 <i>Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931</i>
 Final watercolor for the front cover
 14 1/8 x 10 3/8 in. (36 x 26.5 cm)
 The Morgan Library & Museum</p> <p>4. Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)
 <i>Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931</i>
 Crayon, watercolor and graphite study for the endpapers
 8 1/4 x 12 1/2 in. (20.5 x 31.6 cm)
 The Morgan Library & Museum</p> <p>5. Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)
 <i>Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931</i></p> |
|--|---|

- Final watercolor for the endpapers
14 1/8 x 10 3/8 in. (36 x 26.5 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
6. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“Then he buys himself . . . a suite of becoming shade of green.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Pencil study
13 x 9 3/4 in. (32.8 x 24.7 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
7. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“Then he buys himself . . . a suite of becoming shade of green.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Pencil study
8 1/4 x 12 1/2 in. (20.5 x 31.6 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
8. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“Then he buys himself . . . a suite of becoming shade of green.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Final watercolor
14 1/8 x 20 3/4 in. (36 x 53 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
9. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“Marriage and coronation of King Babar and Queen Celeste.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Pencil study
13 x 10 in. (32.8 x 25.7 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
10. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“Marriage and coronation of King Babar and Queen Celeste.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Pencil study.
13 1/2 x 10 1/2 in. (34.5 x 26.9 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
11. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“Marriage and coronation of King Babar and Queen Celeste.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Final watercolor
14 1/8 x 10 3/8 in. (36 x 26.5 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
12. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“The hunter has killed Babar’s mother.”
- Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant* (The Story of Babar), 1931
Watercolor study
14 1/2 x 10 3/8 in. (37 x 26.5 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
13. **Jean de Brunhoff (1899–1937)**
“The elephants carried Babar, Arthur, and Celeste in triumph.”
Histoire de Babar, le petit éléphant (The Story of Babar), 1931
Watercolor
14 1/2 x 10 3/8 in. (37 x 26.5 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
14. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Black line proof for cover
14 1/2 x 10 1/2 in. (37 x 26 1/2 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
15. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Watercolor study
10 1/2 x 7 3/4 in. (27 x 19 1/2 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
16. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“A Magnificent Plane.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Watercolor study
14 1/2 x 20 3/4 in. (37 x 53 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
17. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“A Magnificent Plane.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Final watercolor
15 x 24 3/8 in. (38 x 61.2 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
18. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“Babar and Arthur Reunite.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Watercolor study
14 1/2 x 10 1/2 in. (37 x 26.7 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
19. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“Babar and Arthur Reunite.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Watercolor study
14 1/2 x 10 1/2 in. (37 x 26.7 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum

20. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“Babar and Arthur Reunite.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Final watercolor
14 5/8 x 21 7/8 in. (37 x 55.4 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
21. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“Moustapha’s Feast.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Watercolor study
20 5/8 x 14 1/8 in. (52.5 x 35.8 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
22. **Laurent de Brunhoff (b. 1925)**
“Moustapha’s Feast.”
Babar et ce coquin d’Arthur (Babar’s Cousin: That Rascal Arthur), 1946
Final watercolor
15 x 24 1/4 in. (38 x 61.7 cm)
The Morgan Library & Museum
23. *Cécile, Jean, Laurent, and Mathieu de Brunhoff, ca.1930*
Photograph: Van Hamel Family Archives
24. *Laurent de Brunhoff, 2007.*
Photograph: Phyllis Rose.
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