

Anniversary Auction June 7/8, 2024

## Best of German Art & Pop Art



PRESS RELEASE | Munich, May 21, 2024

The seventieth anniversary of our company is celebrated with a sensational array of works. The highest estimate price tag in the house's history has been put on **Alexej Jawlensky's** marvelously elegiac "**Spanische Tänzerin**" in a blazing red dress, called up in our Evening Sale on June 7. Made in 1909, the pivotal work from the formative years of German Expressionism, in private hands for over ninety years, had only been known from a black-and-white photograph. Estimated at 7 to 10 million euros, it is particularly convincing for the fact that it is new to the market, as well as for the highly stylized Murnau landscape study it boasts on its reverse. A second market sensation is **Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's "Tanz im Varieté"** from 1911, a time when the artist group "Brücke" set out to revolutionize the art world from its new base in Berlin. With unknown whereabouts for a long time, its existence was only documented by a black-and-white photo. Family-owned for eighty years, it is now up for sale at an estimate of 2 to 3 million euros.

Traditionally, German Expressionism is among our core fields of expertise. Accordingly, the strong range of works in both our Evening Sale and Day Sale (June 8) featuring key

works of **Erich Heckel**, **Karl Schmidt-Rottluff**, **Max Pechstein**, **Heinrich Campendonk** and **Gabriele Münter**, most of which are priced in five- to six-figure realms. In addition, the auction also includes works on paper from the legendary Hermann Gerlinger Collection, which our house has sold over the past three years.

Savvy collectors and informed investors alike will find plenty of reasons to make a purchase in this anniversary auction, reflecting on the singularity of an artwork even in challenging times and duly assessing its quality, provenance and novelty on the market. And eventually seize the opportunity. Needless to say this is also true for works of post-war and contemporary art, works like those of **Ernst Wilhelm Nay** from the 1960s as well as **Konrad Klapheck's** machine paintings (an artist for whom our house set a new price record in the last auction). There is still more, for example, a large-scale "Finger Painting" by **Georg Baselitz** from 1972 and a portrait that **Gerhard Richter** made of his artist friend Günter Uecker in a grayish sfumato in 1964.

In addition to a number of Kirchner objects, a remarkable private collection compiled with intellectual focus and curiosity, includes a series of **Henry Moore** sculptures. In the course of a lengthy relationship with the artist, Dr. **Theo Maier-Mohr** has acquired 'Sheep Pieces' that include maquettes and large outdoor sculptures, as well as prime pieces of Moore's 'Family Groups', hence covering and honoring the central themes that drove the great sculptor.

This time around, we also put a strong focus on **American Pop Art**, however, rather in terms of quality than quantity. The key piece in this array is a monumental, ironically provocative motif by **James Rosenquist** ("Playmate", 1966), while **Andy Warhol's** complete series of ten color silkscreens "Flowers" from 1970 and an impressive wall sculpture by the late Pop veteran **Frank Stella** follow suit. **Robert Rauschenberg**, a decidedly flexible maverick among the pop art rebels, quickly found his own path. The evidence we provide in our auction is the bicycle ("Bicycloid VII", 1992) with colored neon tubes, which is now doing its rounds in an auction for the very first time.

## Highlights Contemporary Art



Rare on the auction market: Striking eroticism in an over-sized format from the heyday of American Pop Art. The work "Playmate" (1966) by **James Rosenquist** - the protagonist of American Pop Art with a great sense of humor - was part of the legendary "Playboy" magazine campaign "Playmate as Fine Art" in 1967. Other contributing artists were, among others, Andy Warhol, Tom Wesselmann and George Segal.

\* James Rosenquist, Playmate, 1966, oil on canvas in four parts, wood, metal wire.  
Estimate price: € 1,000,000 - 1,500,000



**Andy Warhol's** ten-part series "Flowers" is another icon of American Pop Art and rarely comes to the market as matching set.

\* Andy Warhol, Flowers (10 sheets), 1970. 10 color silkscreens.

Estimate price: € 800,000 - 1,200,000.



**Georg Baselitz's** "Finger Painting - Birch" from 1972 is one of his early works with the characteristic "upside down" motif. Works from this pioneering creative phase are extremely rare.

\* Georg Baselitz, Finger Painting - Birch, 1972, oil on canvas.

Estimate price: € 800,000 - 1,200,000



One of **Henry Moore**'s rare large-scale outdoor sculptures on the auction market. Further casts of our work can be found in museum collections in California, Michigan and Japan. Part of the same German private collection since its creation. Further works from the Dr. Maier-Mohr Collection are offered in the Evening Sale and the Contemporary Art Day Sale on Friday, June 7, 2024, as well as in our Modern Art Day Sale on Saturday, June 8, 2024 (see extra catalog "A Private Collection - Dr. Theo Maier-Mohr").

\* Henry Moore, Working Model for Sheep Piece, 1971. Bronze with green-brown patina. Estimate price: € 600,000 - 800,000



**Gerhard Richter**'s sought-after early black-and-white paintings from the 1960s are based on photographs. Richter subsequently "inpainted" his motifs in the moist paint enlarged to the dimensions of the canvas, dissolving the contours into soft black-and-white modulations. The famous painterly blur that would become his artistic trademark, first appeared in Richter's paintings of the early 1960s.

Richter's portrait of his fellow artist and friend Günther Uecker, the important "ZERO" protagonist, was created in the context of a small series of portraits that Richter created on the initiative of the legendary Düsseldorf gallery owner Alfred Schmela for his first solo exhibition in September 1964. "Herr Uecker" is one of the last early Richter portraits still in German private ownership.

\* Gerhard Richter, Herr Uecker, 1964. Oil on canvas.

Estimate price: € 450,000 - 650,000



**Ernst Wilhelm Nay's** painting "Ene mene ming mang" is of museum quality, showing a particularly harmonious color scheme in a large format from the group of the famous "Scheibenbilder" (Disk Paintings). As early as in 1957, Nay showed two works from this series in the exhibition "German Art of the Twentieth Century" at the Museum of Modern Art. Comparable works can be found in, among others, the Museum Folkwang, Essen, the Bavarian State Painting Collections, Munich and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York.

\* Ernst Wilhelm Nay, Ene mene ming mang. 1955. Oil on canvas.

Estimate price: € 400,000 - 600,000



As an important representative of Minimal Art and Abstract Expressionism, **Frank Stella**'s work "The Pequod Meets the Rosebud (D-19, 1X)" from the important Moby Dick series unfolds an overwhelming expansive monumentality with an explosion of form and color.

\* Frank Stella. The Pequod Meets the Rosebud (D-19, 1X), 1991. Mixed media on aluminum. Estimate price: € 200,000 - 300,000



**Robert Rauschenberg**'s collaged compositions realized in silkscreen were groundbreaking for Pop Art. Our Evening Sale includes both a large-format radiant work from Rauschenberg's important "Galvanic Suite" (1988-1991) as well as the

bicycle sculpture "Bicycloid VII", a futuristic hybrid between ready-made and neon sculpture. Both works were acquired directly from the artist through the Swiss gallery Jamileh Weber and have been part of an important southern German private collection since.

\* Robert Rauschenberg, Posse Stir (Galvanic Suite), 1989. Mixed media. Acrylic and lacquer on galvanized steel. 123,5 x 306 cm, incl. the original frame.  
Estimate price: € 200,000 - 300,000



\* Robert Rauschenberg, Bicycloid VII, 1992.  
Bicycle, with colored neon tubes on aluminum base. 151 x 190 x 56 cm.  
Unique piece from a series of 7 bicycle sculptures.  
Estimate price: € 100,000 - 200,000



"'Die Technik der Eroberung' is a masterful presentation of a surreal puzzlement as a symbol of a sensual-erotic quest. **Konrad Klapheck** tells a story of seduction in subtle colors with surprising accents in green and red. The work has featured in several important Klapheck exhibitions since 1966.

\* Konrad Klapheck, Die Technik der Eroberung, 1965.  
Oil on canvas. Estimate price: € 180.000 - 240.000



## Highlights Modern Art



"Spanische Tänzerin" (Spanish Dancer) - An ecstatic and exuberant expressionist masterpiece by **Alexej von Jawlensky**. In 1909, he was at the absolute peak of his creativity. Paintings from this short and colorful creative phase are almost exclusively owned by international museums today. A powerful avant-garde double strike: the radiant, highly stylized oil study on the reverse is reminiscent of the painting "Murnauer Landschaft" from 1909, created in a smaller format the same year, it is part of the collection of the Städtische Galerie im Lenbachhaus in Munich today. Shortly after it was made, the painting found a home in the renowned modern art collection of Josef Gottschalk in Düsseldorf, and remained in the family for over nine decades.

\* Alexej von Jawlensky, Spanische Tänzerin, 1909. Oil on cardboard

Estimate price: € 7,000,000 - 10,000,000



Spectacular rediscovery: **Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's** "Tanz im Varieté" has been hidden in a German private collection for 80 years. Until now, the work was only known from a black-and-white photograph. The grand painting from the best "Brücke" period was part of the seminal "Brücke" exhibition at the Fritz Gurlitt Art Salon in Berlin (1912) shortly after it was created.

\* Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Tanz im Varieté, 1911. Oil on canvas

Estimate price: € 2,000,000 – 3,000,000



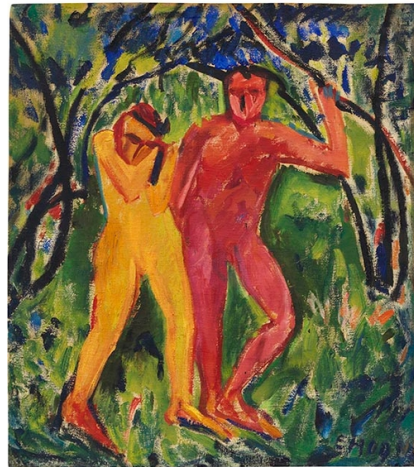
**Heinrich Campendonk's** "Landschaft mit Tieren" (Landscape with Animals), around 1913, dates from the artist's most innovative creative period: he showcased his talent in exhibitions of the "Blue Rider" and the Rhenish Expressionist in 1911 and 1913. In

dialog with Franz Marc, he developed his distinctive pictorial language. This large-format work was presented in major exhibitions at the leading galleries of the time (Walden and Flechtheim) and is now offered with an estimate price of € 600,000 - 800,000.

\* Heinrich Campendonk. Landschaft mit Tieren, around 1913. Oil on cardboard, laid on fiberboard and mounted on the stretcher.



Ernst Ludwig Kirchner. Im Wald, 1910.  
Oil on canvas  
Estimate price: € 400,000 - 600,000



Erich Heckel. Zwei Menschen im Freien,  
1909/10. Oil on canvas  
Estimate price: € 400,000 - 600,000

A rare opportunity! **Erich Heckel**, **Ernst Ludwig Kirchner** and **Max Pechstein** spent the summer of 1910 at the Moritzburg Ponds with a number of friends and models, painting in the woods and by the ponds. In the forests and lakes around Moritzburg, the artists occasionally set up their easels in a row to capture one and the same scene, which explains why the naked couple in Kirchner's painting "Im Wald" is also depicted in Heckel's "Zwei Menschen im Freien".



From the **Hermann-Josef Bunte Collection**: This auction puts **Stenner** in the foreground with 14 important works from a total of 27 lots from the Bunte Collection. In addition, works by other artists from the Hölzel circle are also on offer. **Ackermann, Kinzinger, Graf, Eberhard**, as well as works by **Sagewka** and **Böckstiegel** again.

In "Kaffeegarten am Ammersee", Stenner boldly combined impressionist lightness and bright colors with highly concentrated surfaces. This work should become one of his most accomplished paintings from the summer sojourn in Dießen on Lake Ammer.

\* Hermann Stenner, Kaffeegarten am Ammersee. 1911. Oil on canvas  
Estimate price: € 90,000 – 120,000.

## Highlights 19th Century Art



After the outbreak of World War I in 1914, the house on Wannsee, hidden in the picture on the right, became **Max Liebermann's** artistic retreat. This was where he created his most sought-after works. Our painting also boasts an important provenance: it was part of the estate of Albert Janus, important collector and patron of the Folkwang Museum. In 2010, it was exhibited on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the Liebermann Villa on Wannsee.

\* Max Liebermann, Die Colomierstraße in Wannsee, 1917. Oil on canvas  
Estimate price: € 200.000 - 300.000



In his celebrated paintings of the garden at his Wannsee villa, Liebermann liberated form and color in an unprecedented way. Wannsee paintings of this luminosity are extremely rare on the auction market.

\*Max Liebermann, Wannseegarten - Haus mit roten Stauden, 1926. Oil on canvas  
Estimate price: € 400,000 - 600,000



For over 20 years, **Franz von Stuck's** " Der Engel des Gerichts" (The Angel of Judgement) was on permanent loan at the Künstlerhaus am Lenbachplatz in Munich. A fascinating interpretation and daring modernization of the age-old motif in the rebellious zeitgeist prevailing at the turn of the century. The work has been privately owned since its creation and is now available on the auction market for the first time.

\* Franz von Stuck, Der Engel des Gerichts, around 1922. Oil on panel  
Estimate price: € 100,000 - 150,000

Find more information and further works of art [on our website](#).

## **DATES**

May 27, 2024 Rare Books Auction in Hamburg ([www.ketterer-rarebooks.com](http://www.ketterer-rarebooks.com))

June 7, 2024 Contemporary Art Day Sale, Evening Sale in Munich

June 8, 2024 19th Century, Modern Art Day Sale in Munich

Until June 15, 2024 Online Sale - parallel to the saleroom auction

## **PDF Catalogs**

[Evening Sale](#) (English)

[Contemporary Art Day Sale](#) (German)

Modern Art Day Sale (German)

19th Century (German)

## **Preview Shows of the Top Lots**

**Berlin** - Ketterer Kunst, Fasanenstr. 70, 10719 Berlin

May 22 - 23, 2024 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

May 24, 2024 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

May 25 - 29, 2024 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

May 30, 2024 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**München** - Ketterer Kunst, Joseph-Wild-Str. 18, 81829 Munich

June 1, 2024 12 - 6 p.m.

June 2, 2024 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

June 3 - 4, 2024 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

June 5, 2024 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

June 6, 2024 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## **70 YEARS OF KETTERER KUNST**

KKetterer Kunst with its headquarters in Munich and branches in Hamburg, Cologne and Berlin, as well as with a global network of experts, was founded in 1954. Robert Ketterer runs the family business in second generation. The auction house has a focus on Contemporary, Modern and 19th Century Art and on Rare Books from five centuries. In its market segment, Ketterer Kunst is the number 1 in the German language region and is in the global top ten of the strongest-selling art auction houses (artprice.com).

## **PRESS INQUIRIES**

Anja Häse

Tel.: +49-(0)89-552 441 25

E-Mail: [presse@kettererkunst.de](mailto:presse@kettererkunst.de)

[www.kettererkunst.com](http://www.kettererkunst.com)

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