

End of November is the time - Ketterer opens new House for Art with a million dollar Nolde

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Munich, 15 October 2008, (kk) - On 29 November Ketterer Kunst opens the doors of its new Munich headquarters. Guests will then be able to take a first tour of the new House for Art while keeping an eye on the 1909 Emil Nolde "Landscape" (estimate: € 800 000-1 200 000) which is to lead off at the inaugural auctions on 3 and 4 December.

Covering some 3500 square meters and three floors, the new house for art in the immediate vicinity of Neue Messe Munich comprises a state-of-the-art auction room, a generous amount of exhibition space, an art lounge with a readers' corner, a coffee bar with cosmopolitan ambience and what is probably the world's biggest art show window at 8 metres high by 23 metres wide.

"I am delighted that this dream has now come true and we have so much room for art with over 1000 square meters exhibition space. With all this and to top it off with a wide range of parking possibilities, we are responding to wishes expressed by our clientele. So art objects can now be brought by car directly into the new House," thus Robert Ketterer, builder of the new house and owner of Ketterer Kunst.

The triad of works to lead off at the inaugural auction of Modern Art, along with the Emil Nolde oil painting mentioned above, a vibrantly glowing "landscape of the soul", and the Nolde watercolour "Seebüll unter blau-violettem Himmel" ["Seebüll beneath a Blue-Purple Sky"] (estimate: € 140 000-180 000), also includes an August Macke watercolour (estimate: € 300 000-400 000). Macke painted "Frauen am See (Die Landung)" ["Women by a Lake (Landing-Stage)"] in 1913 while on holiday in Switzerland. This snapshot of an idyllic scene flooded with light is sure to captivate many art lovers as it radiates not only spontaneity and freshness but also tranquillity and relaxing recreation.

The same holds for two oil paintings by Max Liebermann and Hermann Max Pechstein, respectively (estimate: € 250 000-350 000 each). Whereas "Der Nutzgarten in Wannsee nach Westen" ["The Kitchen and Cutting Garden Looking West"] features a charming jumble of vegetables and flowers, Pechstein's "Nach der Heimkehr" ["Homeward Bound"] is about fisherman coming home with their catch.

Another work to make the auction room tingle is "Cariatide" ["Caryatid"] (estimate: € 100 000-120 000) by Amedeo Modigliani. Done c. 1911, this drawing in blue chalk and pencil is in an extremely successful in-house tradition. In June this

year - a repeat performance echoing 2006 and 2007 - a similar work nearly quadrupled its estimate of € 120 000 to sell for € 425 000*. Another Modigliani drawing in chalks, "Tête de femme" (1913) will spark off bidding skirmishes (estimate: € 100 000-150 000).

Figuring prominently in the Modern Art division are important works by Hanns Bolz ("Flechtheim Portrait"; estimate: € 18 000-24 000), Max Liebermann ("Loving Couple ..."; estimate: € 70 000-90 000), Franz Marc ("Landscape"; estimate: € 180 000-200 000), Wilhelm Morgner ("Portrait of a Man"; estimate: € 70 000-90 000), Pablo Picasso ("Bacchanale au taureau noir"; estimate: € 60 000-80 000), Leo Putz ("Peaceful Days"; estimate: € 80 000-120 000), Karl Schmidt-Rottluff (Prints portfolio-10 woodcuts; estimate: € 90 000-120 000) and Arnold Topp ("Landscape with Red Figures", estimate: € 70 000-90 000).

The POST 1945/Contemporary Art division is headed by Andy Warhol's "Untitled (building)". So brilliant are the colours that, although cool, pure and detached, this 1984 work painted on canvas with synthetic polymer paint and silkscreen inks radiates a cheerful atmosphere. For all the superficial seductiveness of Warhol's art, it nonetheless goes deep and is so memorable that a brief glance ensures a Warhol will be burnt forever on our subconscious. Measuring 142 x 106.7 cm, this Warhol carries an estimate of € 300 000-500 000.

A. R. Penck's "Ohne Titel (Y/2)" ["Untitled (Y/2)"] might be yours for € 150 000-250 000. Painted in synthetic resin in 1977, the work is in 14 parts. It reveals the full gamut of this versatile artist's formal language, ranging from the figurative to the abstract and sign-like. Another A. R. Penck, "Aus: Irak-serie" ["From: Irak Series"], is an abstract and reductive portrayal of man in a world he himself has created. Painted (1985) in oil on canvas, it enters the lists carrying an estimate of € 40 000-60 000.

Measuring 2.90 by 3.30 m, the Norman Bluhm oil painting "Cloud Chambers" (estimate: € 70 000-90 000) will certainly attract more than just a quick look. The same can be said for Jean Riopelle's "Composition" in oils (estimate: € 60 000-80 000), Sigmar Polke's "Knochen-Mobile" ["Bone-Mobile"] (estimate: € 50 000-70 000), Daniel Richter's untitled 2005 oil painting (estimate: € 50 000-60 000) and Jonathan Meese's "Don Knurrhahn (Self-Portrait)", which is estimated at € 55 000-65 000. Other important works to be called are by such distinguished artists as Lynn Chadwick, Antoni Clavé, Jörg Immendorff, Kenneth Noland and Emil Schumacher.

The inaugural auction will be complemented by two special auctions: at the auction Side lines of the German Avant-garde, which by now is almost a tradition, more than 100 works by the likes of Curt Ehrhardt, Moriz Melzer, Hermann Mühlen, Fritz Schaeffler, Louis Seel and Fritz Stuckenberg are to go under the hammer while the special auction devoted to the collection Stiftung Kunst und Recht [Foundation Art and Law] features a total of 23 works with estimates ranging from € 2000 - € 250 000. All are to be called at half their lower estimates. The highlight of the collection Stiftung Kunst und Recht is Emil Schumacher's "Mabudan", which carries an estimate of € 150 000-250 000 (see separate press release).

Auction venue: Ketterer Kunst, New House for Art, Joseph Wild Strasse 18, 81829 Munich.

Auctions begin: 3 December, 4.30 pm Side lines of the German Avant-garde

5.30 pm Modern Art

4 December, 5.30 pm: Stiftung Kunst und Recht Collection

followed by: POST 1945/Contemporary Art

Pre-sale viewings have been scheduled for the following dates, times and venues:

Mo 17 November - Th 20 November, 11 am-5 pm (selected works)

Ketterer Kunst, Meißberg 1, Hamburg

Sa 22 November - Fr 28 November, 11 am-7 pm (selected works)

Ketterer Kunst, Fasanenstrasse 70, Berlin

Sa 29 November, 11 am-6 pm (all works)

Su 30 November, 11 am-6 pm; from 11 am: Advent brunch

Mo 01- Tu 02 December, 10 am-8 pm

Ketterer Kunst, Joseph Wild Strasse 18, Munich-Riem

* The sale price equals hammer price + 18 per cent surcharge on hammer prices exceeding € 200 000

Since it was founded in 1954, Ketterer Kunst has been firmly established in the front ranks of auction houses dealing in art and rare books with headquarters in the Prinz Alfons Palais in Munich and a branch in Hamburg. Gallery rooms in Berlin as well as representatives in Heidelberg, Krefeld and New York have contributed substantially to the company's success. Ketterer Kunst has further rounded off its portfolio by acquiring the prestigious Ernest Rathenau Verlag, New York/Munich. In addition, exhibitions, special auctions, benefit auctions for charity and live online auctions are regular events at Ketterer Kunst.

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