

# KARL&FABER

## Max Beckmann

## Lot 539

Recumbent woman



Low estimate :	€ 40,000
High estimate :	€ 60,000
VAT on hammer price :	7 %
Buyers premium incl. VAT :	27 %
VAT over buyers premium :	7 %

## **Artist**

Max Beckmann

Öl auf Leinwand, doubliert. (1913). Ca. 57 x 74 cm.

## **Exhibition**

Große Kunst-Ausstellung, Städtischer Ausstellungspalast, Düsseldorf 1913, Kat.-Nr. 39 ; Herbstausstellung (der aus der Berliner Secession Ausgetretenen), Ausstellungshaus am Kurfürstendamm, Berlin 1913, Kat.-Nr. 16 ; 1. Ausstellung, Künstler-Vereinigung Dresden, 1916, Kat.-Nr. 13 ; From Kandinsky to Dix. Paintings of the German Expressionists, Nassau Museum of Art, Roslyn u.a. 1989, Kat.-Nr. 1, S. 32, farb. Abb. S. 33.

## **Provenance**

Atelier Max Beckmann; Kunstsalon Paul Cassirer, Berlin, 1913 in Kommission; Atelier Max Beckmann, 1920; Privatsammlung, Berlin; Galerie Gerd Rosen, Berlin, 1954; Walter Stein, USA, 1954; Ketterer Kunst, München 28.11.1988, Los 74, mit Farbtafel; Sammlung/Nachlass Serge Sabarsky, New York, seit 1988; Sammlung/Stiftung Vally Sabarsky, New York.

- Early work from Beckmann's Berlin period
- Back view of a half-dressed woman in an academic painting style
- Atmospheric color composition with dense application

In 1913, a woman sits reclined on a canapé and sinks exhausted into the cushions. She has turned her back on the viewer and the painter Max Beckmann. Dressed in a bodice, petticoat and headdress, she seems frozen in action. She is not naked, but she is no longer fully clothed either; the composition of her clothing and her state of dress do not represent a consciously fashionable composition. It almost seems as if the painter spontaneously surprised her while she was undressing.

Beckmann captures the anonymous woman in a seemingly spontaneous moment: The skirt slips, the bare back almost brazenly and accordingly erotically in focus. This anonymity in an intimate situation makes the picture so appealing. Although we don't know who the woman is, we are given an insight into one of the most private moments of her day. Where was she, who has not yet taken off her earring, but has already taken off her overskirt? The picture invites you to tell yourself a story ...

The painting was created in Berlin in 1913. Max Beckmann was 29 years old and still painting in accordance with academic tradition. He would depict reclining women, unknown and identifiable, again and again in the course of his work. They look out of the pictures, are busy, represent, flirt. They appear as typical Beckmann women, as nudes, in clothing. But never again

will Beckmann disturb a woman undressing, as he did in 1913.

Göpel/Tiedemann MB-G 168.