

KARL&FABER

Lyonel Feininger

Lot 572

„Freighter II“



Low estimate :

EUR 22,000.00

High estimate :

EUR 25,000.00

Buyers premium incl. VAT :

27 %

Artist

Lyonel Feininger

Additional description

Aquarell und Tusche auf Bütten mit Wz. von Canson Frère. 1943. Ca. 31,5 x 48 cm. Signiert unten links, betitelt und datiert unten rechts.

Period

(1871 - New York - 1956)

Technique

Arbeiten auf Papier

Provenance

Privatsammlung.

- Expression of his lifelong fascination with the sea - between construction and poetry
- Delicate color harmonies and clear lines - exemplary of Feininger's "crystalline" pictorial language
- Important watercolor from Feininger's late work, created in the USA in 1943

Lyonel Feininger, born in New York in 1871, is one of the great personalities of classical modernism. After his time as a Bauhaus master in Weimar, he returned to the USA with his family in 1937. There he created numerous watercolors in which the experience of emigration is combined with a longing for light, space and tranquillity.

The present watercolor "Freighter II" from 1943 is one of the most impressive maritime depictions of his late work. With a few clear lines and a transparent application of paint, Feininger creates a quiet, almost enraptured scene: a cargo ship glides silently over the smooth surface of the water, the horizon dissolves in the transition from yellow to blue, sea and sky merge into a pure sound of color and light.

Feininger wrote to his wife Julia in 1926:

"I have been fascinated by the sea since I was a child and always wanted to become a 'marine painter'."

This lifelong enthusiasm for the sea also shaped his later watercolors. However, he is not interested in depicting reality, but in atmosphere and symbolism. For him, the sea is a mirror of the spiritual, a space of memory, longing and stillness. Movement takes a back seat in favor of structure, clarity and light.

In "Freighter II", Feininger condenses his formal language into crystalline precision. The finely vibrating stroke of the ink gives the sheet architectural

tension, while the glazed colors unfold an almost musical lightness. Everything seems to have come to rest: the ship, the sea, the viewer's gaze. A watercolor of quiet beauty and spiritual clarity - a highlight of Feininger's late American work, in which construction and poetry are completely intertwined.

Achim Moeller, Director of the Lyonel Feininger Project LLC, New York - Berlin, has confirmed the authenticity of this work, which is registered in the Lyonel Feininger Project archive under the number 1949-11-15-24. With a photo expertise dated 15.11.2024.