

# KARL&FABER

## Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn (Schule)

## Lot 17

Tobias with the Archangel Raphael



Low estimate :

High estimate :

Buyers premium incl. VAT :

EUR 10,000.00

EUR 15,000.00

32 %

**Artist**

Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn (Schule)

**Additional description**

Öl auf Leinwand, kaschiert auf Platte. (Um 1660). Ca. 107 x 96 cm.

**Period**

15.-18. Jahrhundert

**Technique**

Gemälde

**Provenance**

Privatbesitz, Süddeutschland; Privatbesitz Süddeutschland (durch Erbschaft von Vorgenannter).

The Old Testament story from the Book of Tobit, which recounts the journey of the young Tobias accompanied by the Archangel Raphael, was one of the favourite subjects in the circle of Rembrandt van Rijn. This painting belongs to that artistic milieu and explores the theme of divine guidance in a manner that is both focused and sensitive. In the foreground, the two figures meet in quiet intimacy: the angel, with outstretched wings and clad in a bright robe, gently places his hand on Tobias's shoulder, whilst the latter, in a bright red tunic, looks up at him. The restrained gesture lends the scene a poignant intimacy and makes the relationship of trust between the heavenly companion and his human charge immediately palpable. At their feet appear the iconographically established attributes – the dog and the large fish, the catching of which is of central importance for the healing of the father. The influence of the Rembrandt circle is clearly evident in the painting: a warm, brown-golden colour scheme pervades the composition, from which the figures emerge through carefully placed highlights. The space is deliberately treated in a summary manner and opens up into the depth only suggestively, thereby focusing attention entirely on the dialogical relationship between the figures. The soft modelling and the calm, narrative composition correspond to the visual language developed within Rembrandt's circle, which aims less at dramatic intensification than at inner contemplation and emotional presence. Thus, the painting combines narrative clarity with quiet contemplation and proves to be a characteristic work from the Rembrandt school, in which poetic density and a subtle sense of both human and divine relationships unfold impressively.