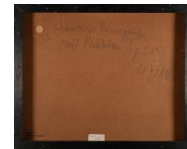
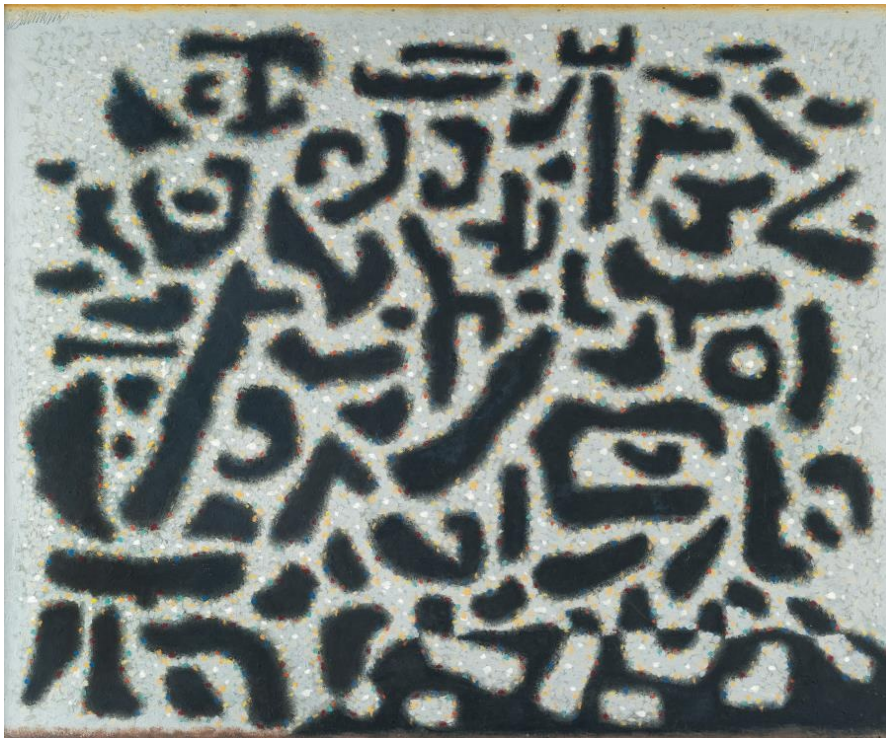


KARL&FABER

Willi Baumeister

Lot 654

"Schwarze Bewegung mit Punkten" (Black Movement with Dots)



Low estimate :

€ 120,000

High estimate :

€ 150,000

Buyers premium incl. VAT :

32 %

Artist

Willi Baumeister

1889 - Stuttgart - 1955

Öl mit Kunstharz auf Hartfaserplatte, auf Holzleisten montiert. 1955. Ca. 81 x 100 cm. Signiert und datiert "5.55" oben links. Verso nochmals datiert "1955" sowie betitelt und mit Maßangaben.

Further information

Beye/Baumeister 1590.

Exhibition

Willi Baumeister, Kleemann Galleries, New York 1956, Kat.-Nr. 17, s/w Abb.

literature

Grohmann, Will, Willi Baumeister. Leben und Werk, Köln 1963, Nr. 1188, s/w Abb. S. 316.

Provenance

Nachlass des Künstlers, verso mit dem Stempel "atelier willi baumeister";
Kleemann Galleries, New York, verso mit dem Etikett;
Sammlung Stephen M. Kellen, New York, 1956 bei Vorgenannter erworben;
Privatbesitz, Frankreich;
Galerie Michael Haas, Berlin, 2018;
Privatsammlung, Berlin.

- One of the final works in the artist's extensive oeuvre
- Depth and richness of detail are achieved through minimal use of colour
- From the collection of the New York philanthropist Stephen M. Kellen

"Between heaven and earth there is chaos," remarked a viewer upon collecting the painting. What appears from a distance as a grey field full of black forms turns out, upon closer inspection, to be a detailed work full of depth. Here, no surface is painted; here, space is created; colourful dots of paint create a pull, and the once-serene picture gains dynamism.

After losing his professorship in 1933, Baumeister began to engage increasingly with floating abstract forms. The prehistoric cave paintings in the Spanish Levante and at Altamira fascinated and inspired him. Now, in 1955, the year of his death, he had brought his art to perfection. Narrow strips of colour construct a frame at the horizontal edges of the picture, defining a top and a bottom. In between lies ordered disorder, finely composed and colour-coordinated.

Thus the ad hoc classification, casually remarked in passing, holds true: between heaven and earth there is chaos. Yet the chaos in Willi Baumeister's

painting is well-ordered. It sums it up: here the artist's oeuvre culminates in a final balancing act between the painted surface and pictorial space, between monochrome and colour, between heaven and earth.