

KARL&FABER

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner

Lot 652

Three Courtesans at Night



Low estimate :	€ 50,000
High estimate :	€ 60,000
VAT on hammer price :	7 %
Buyers premium incl. VAT :	27 %
VAT over buyers premium :	7 %

Artist

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner

1880 Aschaffenburg - Frauenkirch/Davos 1938

Radierung auf Velin mit Wz. "WJS JOYSICRAY TRADE MARK". (1914).
Ca. 25 x 17 cm (Blattgröße ca. 39,5 x 36,5 cm). Eines von insgesamt nur 4
bekannten Exemplaren. Signiert unten rechts. Selten.

Further information

Gercken 660 II (von II).

Exhibition

Lebenslust & Totentanz, Olbricht Collection, Kunsthalle Krems, 2010, S.
184;
Aurel Scheibler Galerie, Berlin 2013.

Provenance

Dr. Andreas Sturies, Düsseldorf 15.5.2004, Los 104;
Sammlung Thomas Olbricht, Essen;
Van Ham, Köln 26.9.2020, Sammlung Thomas Olbricht, Essen, Los 306;
Privatsammlung, Nordrhein-Westfalen.

- Dynamic composition full of action and spontaneity
- From the series of "Street Scenes", created between 1913 and 1915
- A unique print from an edition of only 3 copies

The motif of the "Kokotten" recurs frequently in Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's work. Between 1913 and 1915, he worked on his "Street Scenes", in which he captured the pulse of Berlin through his artistic media. He depicts crowds squeezing through the Neue City West, overflowing the pavements, flooding the shopping centres. And he repeatedly depicts kokottes, who are both characters and symbols. Unlike the Tauentziengirls – today they would be the Kurfürstenstraßengirls – the kokottes promise more than mere lust. They are elegant, sophisticated, and know how to seduce men in every way. In Kirchner's work, misogyny is always present: his kokottes are birds of prey, harbingers of doom. For him, they are not merely street figures like everyone else, but signs of impending doom. He recognises the signs of the times in the hectic city of Berlin, with all its consumerism and fast pace. Our three courtesans at night are rendered with dynamic brushstrokes. Kirchner captures the nocturnal scene of those waiting—almost lying in wait—in a sketch-like manner. The motif first appears in Kirchner's Sketchbook 37, 1913, page 55.