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Alexander Mohr (Trier 1892 - Athens 1974) "women's Meeting"; Gouache German Expressionist



450 EUR

Period : 20th century

Condition : Etat d'usage

Material : Gouache

Width : 20

Height : 22

Description

Alexander Mohr (Trier 1892 - Athens 1974)
German Expressionist "Women's Meeting";
Gouache signed lower left Dimensions 22 x 20
cm

Alexander Mohr (1892-1974) was a German
Expressionist artist.

Life and work

Mohr was born in Frankenberg, Germany, to
affluent parents who hailed from an aristocratic
background. Mohr commenced his formal artistic
instruction in 1905 in Koblenz, Germany under
the tutelage of German expressionist William
Straube (1871-1954), who was a student of Henri
Matisse. His formal training was interrupted by
World War I where he served as a Cavalry
Officer from 1914 to 1918 in the war's eastern
front.

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The war behind him, in 1919 Mohr studied under expressionist Adolf Holzel (1853-1934) in Stuttgart and executed his works in the circle of the Rhenish Expressionists in Düsseldorf.

In 1919, he illustrated a book for famed German expressionist writer Carl Maria Weber and later rendered avant-garde illustrations for other publications. Commencing in 1920 Mohr began a lifelong friendship with the French-German writer Joseph Breitbach (1903-1980).

In 1922, Mohr participated in the First International Art Exhibition in Düsseldorf. Later that year Mohr transitioned to Berlin where he became a member of the expressionist November Group and developed an acquaintance with art-handlers Alfred Flechtheim and Wilhelm Uhde.

From 1925 to 1931, Mohr both studied and worked in Paris with three one-man exhibitions in 1927, 1929 and 1930. Through his acquaintance with expressionist Max Jacob, Mohr gained access to Pablo Picasso, with further references from his author friend Joseph Breitbach. While in Paris, Mohr was comfortable and frequently seen with the bon vivant literary elite of Paris, including Jean Schlumberger, André Gide and Julien Green.

Many believe that Mohr's finest expressionist paintings were executed during his Paris years and represented bucolic, mythological scenes influenced by the writings of Virgil, Horace and Ovid as the three canonical poets of Latin literature.

On occasion during 1925 to 1930 Mohr journeyed to Hungary, Spain, Italy and Switzerland to advance his expressionist agenda. In Rhenish Expressionism 1932, Mohr visited Greece where he met and married Elsa Kahn, who would remain his lifelong partner. (Elsa's uncle was investment banker Otto Kahn (1867-1934) who built a 127-room mansion on Long Island, the second largest private residence in the United States, after George Vanderbilt's Biltmore Estate in Asheville, North Carolina.)

For the next decade, Mohr worked mostly in Germany, favoring his family homes in Trier and also Merzig, but also with frequent stays in Paris and Greece, inclusive of exhibitions in both Germany and Greece. His last one-man exhibition in Paris was in 1939 as the rumblings of World War II became louder. Mohr recognized the signs of conflict and opted to reside in Greece from 1942 to 1949.

From the mid-1930s, Mohr's artistic style migrated from expressionism to a more abstract form of the German expressionist movement, albeit some characterize this period as a transition to cubism by Mohr. While both expressionism and cubism are forms of modern art, cubism is based much less on the expression of emotion than it is on an intellectual experiment with structure and few would argue that emotion is lacking in Mohr's works. His paintings exude expressive emotion and are executed with quintessential German exactitude. Mohr was a wizard in catching an expression as elusive as thought. A master of expressionist painting, Mohr latched on to the brash and angular. We can only imagine Mohr propped on his studio stool, well-groomed yet smug as he lays evanescent highlights onto the implastic background of the canvas of his early expressionistic work and on another occasion wondering if we will identify the blended nuances, all but hidden, in his later abstract expressionist works.

From 1950 to 1953, Mohr once again migrated to Paris and worked from a studio provided by the Schlumberger family and remained in close contact with his friend Joseph Breitbach.

Beginning in the mid-1950s, Mohr resumed his peripatetic travel rhythm and his lifelong expressionist painting passion became a more casual endeavor. On February 8, 1974, expressionist painter Alexander Mohr died after a short illness in Athens, Greece and was interred there.

Several retrospective exhibitions of the work of Alexander Mohr were held in the following

decades. His life is described in Alexander
Mohr-Der Maler mit den Flügelschuhen a
410-page illustrated monograph written by Christl
Lehnert-Leven and published in 1996 in
Germany.

Exhibitions

1919 Cologne, Cologne Art Association, Society
of the Kunste, November

1922 Düsseldorf, Leonhard Tietz AG, First
International Art Exhibition, 28 May to 3 July

1922 Berlin, Galerie Alfred Flechtheim,
One-man exhibition, October

1924 Trier, Artist's home, Christmas exhibition,
December

1927 Paris, Galerie Zborowski, One-man
exhibition, 7 to 22 January

1927 Trier, Paulusplatz, College exhibition,
April

1928 Essen, Folkwang Museum Exhibition,
January

1928 Düsseldorf, Kunstpalast, German art
exhibition, May to October

1929 Paris, Galerie aux Quatre Chemins,
One-man exhibition, 16 to 30 November

1930 Paris, Galerie Klienmann & Cie., One-man
exhibition, 31 October to 14 November

1930 Trier, Kornmarkt, Annual exhibition, 30
November to 14 December

1931 Trier, Bezirk, Annual exhibition, 6 to 20
December

1931-1932 Athens, Galerie Parnassos, One-man
exhibition, 20 December to 4 January

1932 Luxembourg, Galerie Menn, One-man
exhibition, 16 April to 4 May

1932 Trier, Bischof-Korum house, Rhenish
exhibition, 18 to 20 June

1932 Trier, Kornmarkt, Annual exhibition,
December

1932-1933 Athens, Galerie Studio, One-man
exhibition, 18 December to 18 January

1933 Cologne, Cologne Art Association,
One-man exhibition, 1 to 26 December

1934 Stuttgart, Württembergischer Art

Association, One-man exhibition, 6 January to 4 February

1934 Athens, Galerie D'Art Geo, One-man exhibition, 19 November to 15 December

1935 Cologne, Cologne Art Association, One-man exhibition, September

1935 Saarbrücken, National Museum, One-man exhibition, 20 October to 20 November

1936 Trier, Paulusplatz, Exhibition, August to September

1938 Athens, Galerie Stratigopoulos, One-man exhibition, 2 to 19 February

1939 Paris, Galerie Poyet, One-man exhibition, 17 March to 5 April

1939 Trier, Konstantinplatz, Christmas exhibition, 15 November to 16 December

1941 Berlin, Kunstdienst Exhibition, 28 September to 26 October

1941 Trier, Konstantinplatz, Christmas exhibition, December

1942 Posen, Kaiser Friedrich Museum, Exhibition, 21 March to 19 April

1942 Breslau, Station der Vorgen, Exhibition, 21 June to 19 July

1942 Trier, Palastmuseum, Exhibition, July

1942 Luxembourg, Kunsthaus, Exhibition, December

1943 Luxembourg, Kunsthaus Exhibition, 17 October to 19 December

1944 Trier, Palastmuseum Exhibition, July

1944 Luxembourg, Frühjahrsausstellung, Exhibition, March

1946 Trier, Paulusplatz, Exhibition, 22 September to 12 October

1947 Trier, Paulusplatz, Christmas exhibition, December

1950 Mettlach, Abteigebäude, One-man exhibition, 7 to 21 May

1954 Saarlouis, French Consulate, One-man exhibition, July and August

1958 Athens, Goethe Institute, One-man exhibition, 27 March to 9 April

1958 Saarbrücken, Galerie van Hees, One-man exhibition, 23 October to 7 November

1961 Wurgendorf, Heimhoftheater, One-man exhibition, 11 to 23 November

1961 Koblenz, Kurfurstliches Schloss, One-man exhibition, 10 to 23 December

1962 Marseille, Goethe Institute, One-man exhibition, 5 to 17 February

1962 Bonn, Bucherstube, One-man exhibition, 9 to 29 March

1962 Krefeld, Galerie Carl Uhrig, One-man exhibition, April

1962 Nauheim, Kurhaus, Exhibition, May

1962 Giessen, Universitätsbibliothek, One-man exhibition, 23 June to 11 July

1962 Wetzlar, Exhibition Hall, One-man exhibition, July and August

1962 Bad Ems, Kursaalgebäude, One-man exhibition, 1 to 14 September

1962 Koblenz, Kurfurstliches Schloss, Exhibition, 22 September to 22 October

1962 Frankfurt, Dornbuschhaus, One-man exhibition, 3 to 22 November

1964 Düsseldorf, Verein-Malkasten, One-man exhibition, 17 March to 8 April

1966 Ploermel, Galerie les Marmousets, One-man exhibition, 3 to 31 December

1976 Trier, Städtisches Museum Simeonstift, Exhibition, 12 March to 19 April

1977 Merzig, Hilbringen, Exhibition, 18 to 22 February

1993 Bonn, August Macke House, Rhenish expressionism exhibition, 28 February to 2 May

1996 Trier, Städtisches Museum Simeonstift, Exhibition, 29 April to 1 September

1996-1997 Trier, Städtisches Museum Simeonstift, Retrospective, 16 December to 31 March

1997 Koblenz, Mittelrhein-Museum, Retrospective, 30 April to 1 June

1999-2000 Newport Beach, The Pacific Art Foundation, Retrospective, 15 November to 15 May