

Jourda Drawing Modern Art Fernand Leger Portrait Man Bicycle Cyclist Cubist Tour De France XX



599 EUR

Signature: PIERRE JOURDA

Period : 20th century Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Width: 49 Height: 65

Description

Charcoal drawing $(65 \times 49 \text{ cm})$ made in the 1950s by Pierre Jourda, painter and professor at the Beaux-Arts in Toulouse. A moving explicit homage to the aesthetics of Fernand Léger, the work is fully in line with the post-war Cubist heritage, where the simplification of forms, the monumentality of volumes and the use of powerful contours reflect a fascination for the idealized human figure and its relationship with industrial modernity. The composition features a monumental cyclist, treated in tubular and massive volumes, whose schematized face is reduced to a few essential lines. The attitude, resolutely dynamic, evokes both physical strength and a symbolic dimension. In his right hand, the rider brandishes a bouquet of flowers, the traditional trophy awarded to the stage winner

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Mobile: 06 22 14 02 09

Toulouse

Toulouse 31500

(Tour de France!). The background and lateral elements are occupied by wheels and circular shapes, reinforcing the reference to the cycling world and the plastic vocabulary dear to Léger. This association of the human figure and mechanical forms gives the whole an allegorical dimension: that of a sporting and popular celebration elevated to the rank of modernist icon. The thick and supple lines of the charcoal, enhanced by areas of shadow modeled by soft hatching, construct an image that is both sculptural and fluid. The whole gives off a feeling of serene power, where man and machine seem to merge in an ideal of progress and surpassing. With this work, Pierre Jourda reinterprets the codes of mechanomorphic cubism and pays homage to the optimistic and humanist vision of the Modern painter of the first half of the 20th century. The sheet is in good condition, with very small wear on the periphery, direct provenance from the artist's estate.