



Stone Sculpture "face" (artist Unknown)



1 000 EUR

Signature : Inconnu

Period : 20th century

Condition : En l'etat

Material : Stone

Height : 25

Description

1. Artistic Description of the Work: The sculpture is a small-format work, created through direct carving from a block of light-colored stone with a visible grain (likely fine sandstone or limestone). It is mounted on a wooden base, characteristic of modern presentations. Subject and Volume: The work is a stylized interpretation of a female head or bust. The figure is treated as a monolithic volume characterized by a stretched, vertical silhouette. Treatment of Features: The artist employed a radical simplification of anatomical details. The face is reduced to smooth planes and essential curves. The eyes, ears, and hair are omitted to emphasize the expression of mass. The nose and lips are suggested by slight protrusions and horizontal incisions, defining the profile without burdening it with realism. Finish and

Dealer

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Material: The surface displays a granular texture and an unpolished finish, allowing the grain of the stone to contribute to the tactile and visual effect of the piece.²

Artistic Style: Stylized Abstraction and Modernist Primitivism: This sculpture unquestionably belongs to the Modern Art movement of the 20th century, specifically to the current of Stylized Abstraction, strongly influenced by Primitivism.

Unquestionable and Founded Justification: Break from Naturalism: The style directly opposes Academic Art (such as 19th-century Animalier Realism) by rejecting the faithful imitation of nature. The artist does not seek portraiture but the essential form of the subject.

Synthesis of Form: The approach is characterized by geometric synthesis, reducing the human head to a purity of lines that is only possible after the emergence of Cubism and the first forms of abstraction in the early 20th century.

Influence of Primitivism: The stretched form, the elongated neck, and the simplification of features into oval shapes directly recall the influence of African Art and Cycladic Art, major sources of inspiration for modernist sculptors. This echoes the work of pioneers like Constantin Brâncuși in his pursuit of pure ovoid form and Amedeo Modigliani for the elongation and sobriety of figures.

Valorization of Material: The use of direct carving and the enhancement of the stone's raw texture are modern aesthetic choices that emphasize the materiality of the work, making the material itself an expressive element rather than just a substrate. This work is thus typical of a sculptor active in the second half of the 20th century, inheriting the great formal innovations of the early century.