PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Niki De Saint Phalle "the Devouring Mothers" With Autographed And Signed Copy In Graphic Style



750 EUR

Signature : Niki de Saint Phalle

Period : 20th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Width : 16,5

Height : 14

Description

With a very fine, highly graphic, autographed inscription Niki de Saint Phalle - The Devouring Mothers. London, Gimpel fils, 1972, 1 vol. oblong 12mo (138 x 165 mm), loose sheets in cardboard covers, title stamped in black on the front cover, bound with two small knotted cords. Foxing on the cover and the first yellowed page detached from the cords holding the signatures, as is. Rare first edition illustrated with 27 color plates. This sketchbook by Niki de Saint Phalle was published to accompany the exhibition dedicated to her at the Gimpel Fils Gallery in London in 1972. "The Devouring Mothers" adopts the codes of the children's picture book: a small format, a single (apparently) simple and naive image on each page, flat areas of color... But behind these drawings with saturated colors,

Dealer

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which mix reality and fantasy, Niki de Saint Phalle exorcises the traumas of childhood, between a frivolous and incestuous father and a domineering and possessive mother. The figures in the 1972 exhibition, like those in the book, are no longer the joyful Nanas she had previously created. Niki de Saint Phalle explains this change of direction by referring to the psychoanalytic concept of the "bad mother": "In other words, I have already represented 'good mothers'; with the Nanas, I am now devoting myself to their antithesis, to the kind of mother one wouldn't want to be." (Sources: Presentation of the reissue of the book by Editions L'Amateur in 2014). A very fine inscribed copy, signed by Niki de Saint Phalle in a highly graphic style, is included on the last page. The copy is numbered No. 158 on the verso of the last plate, followed by pencil initials "NSP 72," initials which appear to be apocryphal... from an unspecified print run.