

# KARL&FABER

## Otto Mueller

## Lot 527

Two female nudes in dunes



Estimated low :

€ 45,000

Estimated high :

€ 55,000

Buyers premium incl. VAT :

32 %

**Artist**

Otto Mueller

**Additional description**

Farbige Kreide und Aquarell auf chamoisfarbenem Velin. (Um 1923). Ca. 52 x 69 cm. Zweifach signiert unten rechts und unten mittig.

**Period**

(1874 Liebau/Schlesien - Obernigk bei Breslau 1930)

**Technique**

Arbeiten auf Papier

**Provenance**

Privatbesitz, Celle; Stuttgarter Kunstkabinett, Roman Norbert Ketterer, Stuttgart 30.5.1952, Los 2279, mit s/w Abb.; Privatbesitz; Nagel, Stuttgart 8.12.2010, Los 1137; Privatsammlung, Baden-Württemberg.

- Typical work with female nudes by Mueller
- Exaggerated body shapes and natural fantasies combine to create a harmonious composition
- Colorful work in soft blue and fresh green

Under the influence of the "Brücke" movement, Otto Mueller found his preferred subject around 1910: the female or male nude in nature, captured in groups or as a couple, sitting in reeds or under trees, moving freely in a landscape. Mueller avoids a naturalistic depiction of nature and bodies. Instead, he places his nudes in an undefined, idyllic landscape with lush vegetation in order to depict an innocent connection between man and nature.

Two female nudes come together here in the dunes right by the water. The sea and vegetation are indicated by soft blue and fresh green, roughly locating the scene but giving no further clues. While one woman emerges from the water, the other is already leaning back and relaxing. In true Mueller style, both are devoid of detail and, above all, faceless. In the depiction of the bodies, Mueller achieves a harmonious, formal stylization: the knees, stomach and breasts are depicted as pointed forms. Mueller's quick, graphic style is shown in its most beautiful form and at the same time offers us areas for identification. The empty faces, even the actually unclear landscape, invite interpretation and allow us to create our own fantasies of the sea and contemplation.

Pirsig-Marshall/Von Lüttichau P1923/56 (746).