Fifty Shades: A Photography Sale

Live sale on artnet Auctions from January 24 through 31, 2013

New York / Berlin, January 24, 2013—artnet Auctions is pleased to feature Fifty Shades: A Photography Sale, an auction of 50 photographic portrayals of nudes by celebrated photographers including Helmut Newton, Robert Mapplethorpe, Diane Arbus, Richard Avedon, and Chuck Close. All works have estimates ranging from US$2,000 to 70,000. The sale is live on artnet Auctions from January 24 through 31, 2013.

Among the highlights of the photography sale are the French master Brassai’s rare vintage nudes, which depict the female form with an intimate proximity from every angle. Brassai’s Nu 92 (c.1930) is a rare vintage mounted print in excellent condition, with an estimated value of US$50,000 to 70,000.
Also featured are numerous works by Helmut Newton—who is known for scenes incorporating the female nude—including Office Love, Paris (1976), which employs a telescopic perspective that conveys a voyeuristic viewing of a couple on an office desk. This piece is estimated at US$30,000 to 40,000.

Another major highlight in the sale is Diane Arbus’s A Young Waitress at a Nudist Camp, NJ (1963). Arbus took this famous image of a young girl on the verge of womanhood at the Sunshine Park nudist resort in Mays Landing, NJ. The young girl was working her first summer job as a server in the camp’s dining hall, wearing only a white apron.

The male nude is also portrayed by numerous photographers, including Robert Mapplethorpe, whose classical Thomas with Pedestal (1986) features his elegant statuesque form bent beside a pedestal. This work is estimated at US$12,000 to 18,000. An important Richard Avedon piece is also included in the photography auction. Rudolf Nureyev (1961), taken the year the dancer defected to the West, exposes his lean, muscular form in a full frontal nude. This work is estimated at US$50,000 to 70,000.
Fifty Shades: A Photography Sale is live on artnet Auctions from January 24 through 31, 2013, and on view here.

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