

Lot 66



Auction **Decorative Art**

Date 17.11.2021, ca. 14:48

Preview 12.11.2021 - 10:00:00 bis
15.11.2021 - 18:00:00

RARE DECORATIVE WALNUT TABLE.

Bugatti, Carlo. 1856 - 1940.

Date: Around 1900.

Technique: Walnut, ebonized wood, parchment, copper, metal and bone inlays.

Description: Square, slightly protruding top. Strongly structured square legs connected by round, richly decorated panels. Circumferential floral and ornamental inlays of metal, copper and bone. The areas covered with parchment are sporadically painted with floral motifs.

Measurement: 76x73,5x73,5cm.

- Philippe Dejan und Nadine Coleno (ed.): Carlo-Rembrand-Ettore-Jean BUGATTI. Paris, 1981. comp. similar tables fig. p. 88.
- Fiell, Charlotte & Peter: Design des 20. Jahrhunderts, Köln 2005, p.142
- Hawley, Henry: Some Furniture and Silver of Carlo Bugatti, The Bulletin of the Cleveland Museum of Art Vol. 79 No.5, Cleveland 1992
- Phillips, Ian: The stylish world of Carlo Bugatti, The Lancet Vol. 348, London 2001.

The designer Carlo Bugatti (1855-1940) was a man of many talents: he painted, engaged in sculpting, designed silverware and invented extraordinary objects, such as a 30-string guitar. However, he is remembered above all for his unique furniture. After studying in Milan and Paris, he opened an interior design office with his own carpenter's workshop in Milan in 1888. Around the turn of the century, he celebrated success with his designs at the major exhibitions in Europe, where he presented spectacular interiors. These were not just simple furniture, but can be understood as comprehensive works of art.

Bugatti's personal signature is characterised by the use and innovative application of a wide variety of materials. He combined exotic and local woods. He decorated his creations with tassels and covered them with parchment, which he painted with oriental calligraphy and images of plants and animals. He designed elaborate inlays and incorporated materials such as ivory and mother-of-pearl but also copper and pewter into his eclectic creations. He reinterpreted architectural shapes and developed them further, creating his signature works of art full of vibrant energy. In 1902, Bugatti received the Medal of Honour for his famous "Snail Room" at the first international exhibition of modern decorative art in Turin. When the Italian queen described his work as "in the Moorish style", the artist is said to

have confidently replied, "Your Majesty is mistaken. This style is entirely my own."

The designer's eccentric designs captivate with their unconventional uniqueness. As is typical of the art of Art Nouveau, Bugatti drew inspiration for his work from influences from different cultures and epochs. He was inspired by the aesthetics of Japan, looked for models in Islamic and North African art and repeatedly used the stylistic language of the Gothic. He was artistically a child of his time, but always found ways to combine and transform his inspirations in ever new and innovative ways.

Estimate: 12.000 € - 15.000 €; Hammer: 14.000 €
