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Auction	Fine Art
Date	17.05.2024, ca. 16:16
Preview	10.05.2024 - 10:00:00 bis 13.05.2024 - 18:00:00

STUCK, FRANZ VON
1863 Tettenweis - 1928 Tetschen

Title: Portrait of an Old Lady with Pearl Necklace.
Date: 1910s.
Technique: Pastel, heightened in white on paper.
Measurement: 61,5 x 50,5cm.
Notation: Signed lower right: "Franz / von / Stuck".
Frame: Framed.

Provenance:
Private ownership, Germany.

Women's portraits are essential in Franz von Stuck's early work. With his most famous and symbolic work "Die Sünde" he shaped the gaze on women with his erotic type of women, the "femme fatale", around 1900. A strong affinity to antiquity and the Romans as well as his fascination for female nature shaped his creative process. The majority of his work deals with the mysteriousness of women and the ambivalence of human sexuality. Our pastel shows a young woman in profile who is turning her head towards the viewer. Her gaze is open and, at the same time, ambiguous: Is it influenced by curiosity or does it express distrust? Or does it even convey cool indifference - towards the man gazing upon her? In a subtle way Stuck knows to choose the right stimuli in the portrait: the earring directs the gaze to the earlobe hidden by her hair while the pearl necklace is falling on a presumably bared décolleté. With only paltry means the artist creates an intense presence of sensual femininity.

Stuck was one of the most influential and central figures of the Fin de siècle in Munich. In 1892, he founded the Münchener Secession together with his artist colleague Wilhelm Trübner that can be understood as a counter pole to the established artists. In his pursuit for the total artwork, Stuck was able to create a unique synthesis of painting, sculpture and decorative art.

Estimate: 7.000 € - 12.000 €

