

## Lot 20



**Auction** Modern, Post War & Contemporary, Evening Sale

**Date** 27.11.2024, ca. 18:15

**Preview** 22.11.2024 - 10:00:00 bis  
25.11.2024 - 18:00:00

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STAPRANS, RAIMONDS  
1926 Riga

Title: "Sunset II".

Date: 1989.

Technique: Oil on canvas.

Measurement: 110 x 121,5cm.

Notation: Signed and dated lower right: STAPRANS-89. Titled upper left verso: "SUNSET II".

Frame/Pedestal: Framed.

- Important representative of the "Bay Area Figurative Movement", which also includes Wayne Thibaud and Richard Diebenkorn
- Outstanding work by the artist in terms of colour and composition
- Works by the artist are represented in important public collections, including the Museum of Fine Art, Houston, and the Museum of Fine Art, San Francisco

### Bay Area Figurative Movement

Raimonds Staprans, born in Riga in 1926, is a Latvian-American painter and writer who emigrated to the United States after the Second World War. He studied art at the University of California, Berkeley, where he worked with Hans Hofmann, among others. Staprans is known for his stylised depictions of landscapes, still lifes and architecture, characterised by vibrant geometric shapes and bold colours. His works combine elements of realism with a minimalist aesthetic and reflect both his cultural roots and the influences of the 'Bay Area Figurative Movement'.

### Sunset II

The work 'Sunset II' from 1989 is certainly one of the artist's most outstanding works. It depicts two boats lying quietly, almost statically, next to each other. The reduced geometric shapes of these boats are elevated to the point of abstraction and enhance the objective aesthetic, which the viewer can hardly escape. The minimalist composition divides the canvas into two horizontal areas of blue and orange. These colours, which are typical of the artist, contrast vividly with each other, creating a powerful, almost contemplative effect. Coarse, obvious brushstrokes in an expressive style add a dynamic texture to the work and give the depiction additional depth and power.

The treatment of light and space

The work is a testament to Stapran's intense study of light and space. Through the skilful use of lighting and the reflections on the water surface, he creates a sense of vibrancy and connection between the elements. The work is exemplary of Stapran's ability to transform simple motifs into complex emotional compositions through the use of colour and form. The motif invites the viewer to enter a meditative world and masterfully demonstrates the dialogue between nature and abstraction that characterises his entire work.

Estimate: 50.000 € - 70.000 €

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