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Auction Photography | ONLINE ONLY

Date 08.02.2024, ca. 09:00

KLEIN, ASTRID
1951 Cologne - lives and works in Cologne

Title: Marche ou crève.
Subtitle: 5-Part Photographic Work.
Date: 1981.
Technique: Gelatin silver prints.
Mounting: In aluminium frame.
Depiction Size: Installation measurements: ca. 263 x 450 x 2,5cm.
Frame: Framed.

Condition:
Smallest part with tear in the lower right corner (ca. 4cm) as well as with water stain. Minimal crease in the left margin of the left part. Otherwise the work is in very good condition. Not examined out of the frame.

Provenance:
- Produzentengalerie, Hamburg
- Collection Prof. Dr Olbricht, Essen

Exhibitions:
- Kunsthalle Krems, 2010

Astrid Klein's large-format black and white photographic paper panels caused a furore in the 1980s. Klein exposes power structures with unsparing clarity and attacks them with her works. Long before image processing programmes became a permanent fixture in photography, Klein manipulated her images using complex practices. She changes the exposure, scratches the developed photos, paints over the negatives, develops them several times and then photographs the result again at the end. Klein thus conscientiously explores the limits of photography and completely redefines the artistic function of the photographer.

The work "Marche ou crève", consisting of four large sheets of photographic paper, dates from this particularly important phase of his work. The motif of the work has a grotesque effect on the viewer. On a blossoming tree in a summer meadow, actually an idyllic landscape, there are four black women hanging. Each of the women is depicted on

a single sheet of photographic paper. Klein has removed the ropes in the editing process, thus removing the scene from its original context. This makes it difficult for the viewer to categorise what they are seeing, placing the viewer themselves at the centre of the reception of the work. Klein opens up a space in which the viewer has to process and rethink what they have seen. The virtual thinking space created by Klein is inherent to the work and plays a central role in Klein's oeuvre.

Estimated shipping cost for this lot:

This lot is unsuitable for parcel shipping. Shipping only by forwarding agent by arrangement after the auction.

Estimate: 12.000 € - 18.000 €
