



**19th & 20th Century Paintings and Works
on Paper, including Portrait Miniatures (30
Mar 2021 B)**

Tue, 30th Mar 2021

Lot 326

Estimate: £3000 - £5000 + Fees

LOUIS CHRISTIAN HESS (AUSTRIAN 1895-1944)

Property from the Estate of Louis Christian Hess

LOUIS CHRISTIAN HESS (AUSTRIAN 1895-1944)

Resting woman

oil on canvas

60.5 x 45.2 cm (23 7/8 x 17 7/8 in)

EXHIBITED:

Palermo, Palazzo del Turismo; Rome, Deutsche Bibliothek;
Padova, Associazione Italo-Tedesca; Genova, Biblioteca
Germanica, Galleria Carmagnola; Trieste, Istituto Germanico
di Cultura; Bolzano, Goethe Gallery; Milan, Galleria Pietra;
Florence, Palazzo Vecchio; Turin, Teatro Gobetti; Innsbruck,
Tiroler Landesmuseum; Passau, Goethe Institut; and Munich,
Kunstverein, *Christian Hess, Retrospective Exhibition*
(travelling exhib.), 1974-77

Vienna, Schütz Kunst & Antiquitäten, *Christian Hess, A
Tyrolean in Sicily, Heritage Exhibition*, 2012, p. 29,
illustrated in the catalogue

Painted in 1925 in Messina. Although Hess had yet to meet
Max Beckmann, he would have been exposed to his work
whilst living in Munich in the early 1920s. In *Resting woman*
the influence of Beckmann can be seen in the outlined sharp
black brushstrokes and his use of the vibrant yellow, features
that would come to characterise Hess's most accomplished
pictures of the 1930s. With the sitter's arms crossed, her form
defining the edges of the picture plane, her protective pose
and tense expression possibly express the artist's own
nervous disposition following his experiences on the German
front line in the War and the traumatic loss of his parents and
two of his sisters.

See introduction to lot 321.