

DuMouchelles since 1927

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 10, 2020

DuMouchelle Art Galleries

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WORK BY ZOLTAN SEPESHY, ARTIST AND FORMER CRANBROOK PRESIDENT, COMES TO MARKET

DuMouchelles November Auction Features Important Tempera Painting

DETROIT (Nov. 10, 2020) – DuMouchelles Friday, November 20 auction includes an important tempera painting by Zoltan Sepeshy (Hungary/American, 1898-1974), the former President of Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Sepeshy's work "Suntan" (14.5" X 19.5") was exhibited at the Detroit Institute of Arts in 1941, and has been in a private collection, out of the public view ever since. Suntan depicts a first-person perspective of the artist painting sunbathers by a lake - likely Sepeshy's Frankfurt summer home on Lake Michigan. This work and its preliminary sketches are illustrated in Sepeshy's book "Tempera Painting," published in 1946.

Sepeshy became an instructor at Cranbrook in 1930 and was a resident-artist in 1933. After the death of Eliel Saarinen in 1946, he became Director of Cranbrook, and in 1959, he was appointed President until his retirement in 1966.



The painting was likely sold, traded or gifted in 1948 to Sepeshy's colleague and friend Laurence Schmeckebier (1906-1984) who was a sculptor, Professor of Art History and Director of The Cleveland Institute of Art (1946-1954). In 1954, Schmeckebier, also a noted art historian and author, became the Dean of the School of Art at Syracuse University where he curated the first retrospective of Sepeshy's work and wrote the accompanying catalogue: "Zoltan Sepeshy, Forty Years of His Work." In 1975, Schmeckebier curated "Memorial Exhibition: Adolph Gottlieb, Leon Kroll, Zoltan Sepeshy, Moses Soyer," and his papers are housed in the Smithsonian's Archives of American Art. Suntan remained in his collection until his death in 1984 and has been in a private collection of a descendent of Schmeckebier who has commissioned DuMouchelles to make it available at public auction on November 20, 2020.

DuMouchelles November auctions also feature more than 800 fine and decorative arts from collectors and estates, including George P. Palmer of Detroit, and other prominent estates in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and Palm Beach, Florida.

We invite the public to preview DuMouchelles Thursday, November 19 and Friday, November 20 auctions at our Detroit gallery. Please bring a mask and practice social distancing.

- Thursday, November 12, 11am – 5pm
- Friday, November 13, 11am – 5pm
- Saturday, November 14, 11am – 5pm
- Tuesday, November 17, 11am – 5pm
- Wednesday, November 18, 11am – 5pm

For alternate times or a virtual preview, [call us](#) Tuesday-Saturday, 9:30am – 5pm to make an appointment. The public may [contact us](#) to request additional information on any auction items.

We encourage bidders to register to bid live or absentee at live.DuMoArt.com where the buyer's premium is the same as when you bid directly with DuMouchelles (24%). You may also bid at LiveAuctioneers.com or Invaluable.com (27%). View and download our full catalogue at www.DuMoArt.com.

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Consign your Art and Valuables

Whether you have one item or an entire collection or estate, we are ready and available to schedule an in-person or virtual visit to evaluate your items and discuss consignment options. Our team of experts will evaluate your items, and if appropriate, will research, photograph and market your valuables to buyers around the world. Please contact us at www.DuMoArt.com and include photos, or call us at 313.963.6255, Tuesday – Saturday 9:30am – 5pm ET.

About DuMouchelle Art Galleries

Dumouchelle Art Galleries is a fine art auction house, founded in 1927 and located in downtown Detroit, across from the landmark Renaissance Center. DuMouchelles attracts notable consignments and commands top prices in the international auction marketplace. Drawing on our nearly 100 years in business, our experts provide personalized service to individuals, families and estate settlement professionals to buy and sell fine objects from around the country. Our auctions reach international audiences and showcase beautiful and rare items across many categories, including paintings, fine art glass, sculptures, porcelain, oriental rugs, other valuables and antiques.