HEAD SCULPTURE WITH HANDS FRANZ HAGENAUER CA. 1984

Headsculpture with hands, design by Franz Hagenauer, execution by Werkstätte Hagenauer Wien, ca. 1984, brass, chased, nickel-plated, marked

---

In his sculptural designs, Franz Hagenauer responded to a range of international avant-garde movements of the early twentieth century. Reduced to fundamental geometric forms and only sparingly articulated details, his hammered-metal heads and busts reveal clear affinities with the visual language of artists such as Constantin Brâncuși and Amedeo Modigliani, as well as with French Cubist painting.

The sculpture's mask-like face—defined by a sweeping line that simultaneously delineates the eyebrows and the bridge of the nose—recalls ritual objects from a variety of non-Western cultures. Such works served as an important source of inspiration for many avant-garde artists of the early twentieth century in their pursuit of increasingly abstract modes of expression.

The applied strands of hair and the flat, two-dimensional hands point to Hagenauer's work from the late 1960s onward, a period in which he increasingly experimented with planar elements. Their smooth surfaces create a compelling contrast with the visibly hammered texture of the mask-like face, where the traces of the artist's craftsmanship are deliberately left exposed.

Kunsthandel Nikolaus Kolhammer GmbH
Agnesstraße 50, 3400 Klosterneuburg
Österreich, Europa

+43 676 406 46 00
info@kolhammer.com









Kunsthandel Nikolaus Kolhammer GmbH
Agnesstraße 50, 3400 Klosterneuburg
Österreich, Europa

+43 676 406 46 00
info@kolhammer.com