WALL MASK FRANZ HAGENAUER CA. 1970

Wall Mask, Franz Hagenauer, Werkstatte Hagenauer Vienna, ca. 1970, copper, marked

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The sculptural representation of the human head has occupied Franz Hagenauer since the beginning of his artistic career. This impressive wall-mask dates from a later period, the 1970s. Archaic and almost intimidating like some sculptures of tribal art, Franz Hagenauer creates an object with a futuristic character. Features like eyes, nose and mouth clearly reveal a human head. However, with its angular shape and artificial perfection, it does not appear human at all. The metallic surface further reinforces its technoid aura. With this striking object, Franz Hagenauer perhaps wanted to commemorate the technological progress of the 1960s and 1970s. In any case, he succeeds in creating a fascinating sculpture with this robot-like design, which, with its reflective surface, is a space-commanding eye-catcher.

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