



ABOUT THE ARTIST AND HIS PAINTING Willi Baumeister Figure and Circle Segment

illi Baumeister - Figure and Circle Segment from 1923 lithograph, 15.6 x 9 in / 39.7 × 23.1 cm

Willi Baumeister (1889 - 1955)

Willi Baumeister was a German painter, stage designer, graphic artist and typographer. He was also a professor in typography, commercial art and textile printing at the Städtische Kunstgewerbeschule (Städelschule) in Frankfurt am Main until he was dismissed from his teaching position by the National Socialists in 1933. From then until the end of 1945 he was considered a degenerate artist. Artistically, he pursued the abstraction of the human figure and an object's dimensions and structure. Through his work as a typographer and author, he contributed greatly to the development of typography and commercial art in Germany and Europe.

"Figure and Circle Segment"

(1923, lithograph, 15.6 x 9 in / 39.7 x 23.1 cm)

In addition to his paintings, Willi Baumeister also created about 150 lithographs. In "Figure and Circle Segment" he reduces the motif to colorful graphic shapes and bundles them into a clear and very consolidated composition. What at first glance appears to be a study of graphics, at second glance reveals the image of a person. The following quote by Baumeister clarifies his artistic understanding: "The painter must find the shortest, simplest form of expression for the essence of people."





