



JIM DINE (b. 1935)

Double Silver Point Robes

Unsigned

silverpoint and acrylic on 2 joined canvases, wood, knife, and string in artist's frame

53 1/2 x 96 in. (53 5/8 x 96 x 1 5/8 in.)

1964

11756

PROVENANCE:

Sidney Janis Gallery, New York

Private Collection, acquired from the above

Private Collection, by descent from the above

Bathrobes appeared as a visual motif in Jim Dine's paintings and prints beginning in 1964, when the artist saw a bathrobe advertisement in a newspaper. Early examples of his bathrobe paintings were identified in their titles as "self portraits." As Dine later explained, "I probably visualized the axe, the log, and the bathrobe as an extension of myself--a self portrait."

Dine's bathrobe paintings were first shown at Sidney Janis gallery in the fall of 1964 – this is one such example – and are among the most recognizable images to have emerged from his long and illustrious career. Double Silver Point Robes is a large scale mixed media assemblage. The drawing is executed in silverpoint – a technique where a piece of silver is used as a drawing implement over a specially prepared ground. The silver drawing oxidizes over a period of several months, finally settling to a warm brown tone which can be seen in Double Silver Point Robes. The two joined canvases have blocks of wood in place of where the figure's head should be. The block on the right has a knife protruding from it, and a hanging wood element that moves in response to air currents.

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1935, the Pop artist Jim Dine is known for incorporating images of familiar and personally significant objects in his art. His repeated use of the objects — such as robes, hands, tools, and hearts — is a signature of his art. Dine studied at the University of Cincinnati and the Boston Museum School, and earned a BFA in 1957 from Ohio University. He then moved to New York and befriended like thinkers such as Robert Rauschenberg, Claes Oldenburg, and Roy Lichtenstein. In 1962, Dine's work was included in the groundbreaking and influential exhibition *New Painting and Common Objects* at the Norton Simon Museum; the show also included Warhol, Lichtenstein, and Thiebaud. In 1967, he moved to London to focus on drawing and printmaking. He is considered among the most accomplished draftsmen of his generation, and is known for his series of self-portraits and portraits of his wife, Nancy. Dine turned to sculpture in the early 1980s, when he created works based on the ancient sculpture *Venus de Milo*.

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