



**FELIPE CASTANEDA (b. 1933)**

**Mujer con Guitarra**

marble

16 1/2 x 10 1/2 x 10 in.

41.91 x 26.67 x 25.4 cm

1983

31872

Private Collection, New York

Felipe Castaneda was born on December 16, 1933 in Michoacan, Mexico. He is an internationally renown sculptor and is a man of great sensitivity and enormous talent. His exhibits have been held in the United States, Mexico and Europe.

In 1958 he came upon a teacher from an art trade school. The teacher explained the classes that the school offered and Felipe decided that he was going to go to school. He enrolled that same day and took classes in drawing, modeling, carving and constructive drawing. He absorbed knowledge very quickly and was adept at carving and sculpting. In 1962 he began working for the National Museum of Anthropology in Mexico City. It was at this time that Castan~eda became assistant to Francisco Zun~iga, world renown sculptor.

The female forms that Felipe Castan~eda creates out of marble, onyx, and bronze embody both the traditional and modern sensibilities of Mexico. Forms of motherhood and fertility evoking the pre-Columbian culture are coupled with an abstract, stylized interpretation of sensuality that is universal in its depiction of female beauty.

Castan~eda transforms his subjects' contemplative expressions and simple gestures into noble artistic expressions. Each of the women Castan~eda creates is mysterious and provocative. They have perfect proportions owing to his profound knowledge of human anatomy. His sculptures are executed in the Greco-Roman style of beauty. His marble and onyx figures, when completed, gleam like polished jewels.

Castan~eda has exhibited and been recognized in his native Mexico and around the world. His commissioned public sculptures are placed in a number of Mexican cities as well as in Palm Springs, California. His work can be found in the permanent collections of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Museum of Art History in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, among many others. Honors, including one from UNICEF in 1980, from Israel in 1996, and from the International Academy of Modern Art in Rome in 1998 have been bestowed upon him.

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