

FRANCISCO ZUNIGA (1912-1998)

Desnudo reclinado de Dolores

(Reclining Nude of Dolores)

Signed back of head, "Zuniga" and dated and editioned bottom, "Fundicion Moises 1976 III/VI" bronze with green patina

21 x 43 1/4 x 21 1/2 in.

53.34 x 109.86 x 54.61 cm

53.34 X 109.86 X 54.61 Cm

III/VI

1976

32073

PROVENANCE:

Tasende Gallery, La Jolla Philip and Muriel Berman Collection, aqcuired 1977 Sotheby's New York. Latin American Art. 16 November - 17 November 2004 [Lot 37] Larsen Art Auction: Saturday, October 21, 2017 [Lot 00206] Private Collection, Huntington Beach

LITERATURE:

Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara Museum of Art; Tuscon, Tuscon Museum of Art; Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Art Center, Francisco Zuñiga: Sculpture and Drawing, 1972-1978, June 30, 1978-April 29, 1979, no. 12, p. 27, illustration of another cast Carlos Francisco Echeverria, Francisco Zuníga, Mexico, Ediciones Galería de Arte Misrachi, 1980, no. 216-217, p. 202, illustration of another cast Sheldon Reich, Francisco Zuñiga: Sculptor, Tuscon, The University of Arizona Press, 1980, no. 125, p. 133, illustration of another cast Francisco Zúñiga, Catalogo Razonado/Catalogue Raisonné (1923-1993), Mexico City, Albedrío/Fundación Zúñiga Laborde, 1999, no. 769, p. 446, illustration of another cast

Francisco Zúñiga, one of Costa Rica and Mexico's most prominent artists, was a prolific and illustrious draftsman and sculptor. As an apprentice to his father, a sculptor of religious statues, Zúñiga was exposed to art at a very young age and went on to study drawing at the School of Fine Arts in San José. Though he attempted to study art in Europe in 1936, the Spanish Civil War blocked Zúñiga's plans. He instead went to Mexico, where he studied under Manuel Rodríguez Lozano. Though heavily influenced by the Renaissance, he also often incorporated pre-Columbian motifs into his works.

The subjects of Zúñiga's works are almost exclusively female figures, often representing women's powerful strengths as matriarchs. Through his masterful technique he stated, restated and recapitulated the representational figurative narrative of the feminine. Created with line, mass and volume, Zúñiga's works move toward a universal interpretation of womanhood. Zúñiga described his work as "a continuous representation of femininity" and, like no other artist, he has captured and characterized the archetype of the woman of Southeastern Mexico.

Francisco Zúñiga leaves behind an extensive legacy. His works are held in major museums throughout the world, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Museo de Arte Moderno in Mexico City.

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