LOUISE NEVELSON (1899-1988)

Untitled

painted wood, violin key and clothespin 4 3/8 x 7 3/8 x 4 1/4 in. c. 1950s

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PROVENANCE:

Gertrude Stein Gallery, New York
The Arthur and Anita Kahn Collection, New York
Sale: Christie's Hong Kong First Open | Post-War and Contemporary Art, The Arthur
and Anita Kahn Collection: A New York Story, 26 July 2016, Lot 39
Private Collection, California

Louise Nevelson was an early conceptual artist who worked in a variety of media before engrossing herself with wood sculpture. Her sculptures are made of intricately cut and built wood pieces that create puzzle-like compositions. Often, these sculptures were painted black to incorporate every color – for Nevelson, black was not the absence of color, but the totality of it. Later in her career, she began to incorporate white and gold into her repetoire, however the sculptures remained monochromatic.

Nevelson was a prolific artist, who was accorded the highest critical acclaim yet achieved by an American woman artist. Her artwork is held in a number of exceptional private and public collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Cleveland Art Museum, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

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