



ANDY WARHOL

(Pittsburgh 1928–1987 New York)

Clockwork Panda Drummer (from: Toy Series). 1983.

Synthetic polymer and screenprint on canvas.

Signed and dated on the overlap: Andy Warhol 83, also with the handwritten number on the stretcher: 24.

35.5 x 27.7 cm.

Provenance: - Probably Galerie Bischofberger, Zurich. - Collection Dieter Loewe, Herrliberg/Switzerland. - As a present to the present owner, since then private collection Switzerland. The present painting "Clockwork Panda Drummer" belongs to what is known as the "Toy Series", which Andy Warhol began in the early 1980s at the suggestion of his gallerist Bruno Bischofberger. The idea was

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to make something for children, and since Warhol himself had a large collection of toys, it was obvious that he would use these as models. Parts of this collection comprised wind-up metal toys, which can be bought today as vintage toys. The packaging was the key factor for the artist, as we know already from his "Brillo Boxes". It was well known to those around him that Andy Warhol was very fond of children and spending time with children gave him a lot of energy and creativity. He was also unable to hide his own child-like character in his work. The small black and white panda stands in the centre of the painting, carrying a drum in front and swinging the drum sticks. Around him float a couple of notes and lines of music, to make the music "audible" to the viewer. The work is striking for the glaring colour of the background which contrasts with the restrained colours of the drawing, so that a harmonious composition emerges. With his Pop Art Andy Warhol revolutionised art and is undoubtedly one of the most important and influential artists of the 20th century. He brought art into the world of every one of us and made it accessible to everyone, by using well known everyday objects and elevating them to art objects in his works, often through series of works. The same applied to techniques: Warhol made no distinction and saw no difference in value between painting, drawing or graphic art. He used the technique, that often being the silk screen, which enabled the best and widest dissemination of his art.

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